

Fruits Basket

TM

TOKYOPOP

The #1 selling
shojo manga
in America!

13

Natsuki Takaya

Fruits Basket

TM

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The number one manga in America continues!

The time for Yuki's parent-teacher conference has finally arrived, and Yuki must learn how to make his own decisions if he wants to have a say about his future. Later, Tohru sets off on a quest to find out if Kureno Sohma is the same person Arisa has been in love with all this time. But along the way she will discover a tragic secret about Momiji's sister Momo...



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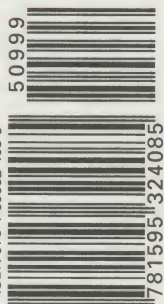
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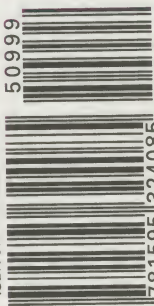
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STORY SO FAR...

Hello, I'm Tohru Honda and I have come to know a terrible secret. After the death of my mother, I was living by myself in a tent, when the Sohma family took me in. I soon learned that the Sohma family lives with a curse! Each family member is possessed by the vengeful spirit of an animal from the Chinese Zodiac. Whenever one of them becomes weak or is hugged by a member of the opposite sex, they change into their Zodiac animal!



Fruits Basket™

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Fruits Basket Characters

Mabudachi Trio

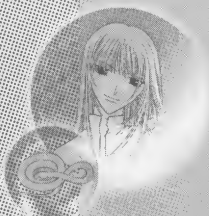


Shigure Sohma, the Dog

Enigmatic, mischievous and a little perverted. A popular novelist.

Hatori Sohma, the Dragon

Family doctor to the Sohmas. Only thing he can't cure is his broken heart.



Ayame Sohma, the Snake

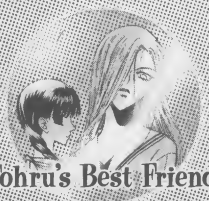
Yuki's older brother. A proud and playful drama queen...er, king. Runs a costume shop.

Saki Hanajima

"Hana-chan." Can sense people's "waves." Goth demeanor scares her classmates.

Arisa Uotani

"Uo-chan." A tough-talking "Yankee" who looks out for her friends.



Tohru's Best Friends



Tohru Honda

The ever-optimistic hero of our story. An orphan, she now lives in Shigure's house, along with Yuki and Kyo, and is the only person outside of the family who knows the Sohma family's curse.

Yuki Sohma, the Rat

Soft-spoken. Self-esteem issues. At school he's called "Prince Yuki."

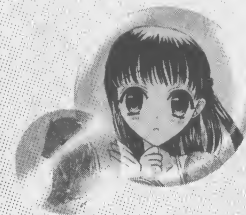


Kyo Sohma, the Cat

The Cat who was left out of the Zodiac. Hates Yuki, leeks and miso. But mostly Yuki.

Kagura Sohma, the Boar

Bashful, yet headstrong. Determined to marry Kyo, even if it kills him.



Fruits Basket Characters

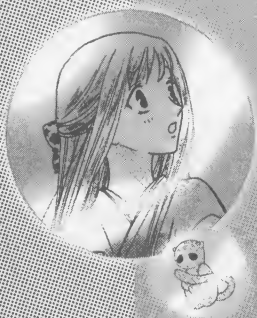
Isuzu "Rin" Sohma, the Horse

She has the hots for Shigure...and Tohru leaves her rather cold. Rin is full of pride, and she can't stand the amount of deference the other Sohma family members give Akito.



Ritsu Sohma, the Monkey

This shy kimono-wearing member of the Sohma family is gorgeous. But this "she" is really a he!! Crossdressing calms his nerves.



Akito Sohma

The head of the Sohma clan. A dark figure of many secrets. Treated with fear and reverence.



Hiro Sohma, the Ram (or sheep)

This caustic tyke is skilled at throwing verbal barbs, but he has a soft spot for Kisa.

Momiji Sohma, the Rabbit

Half-German. He's older than he looks. Mother rejected him because of the Sohma curse.



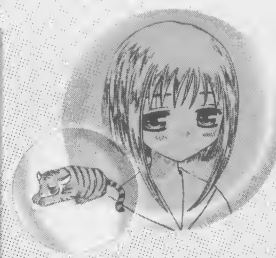
Hatsuharu Sohma, the Ox

The nicest of guys, except when he goes "Black." Then you'd better watch out.



Kisa Sohma, the Tiger

Kisa became shy and self-conscious due to constant teasing by her classmates. Yuki, who has similar insecurities, feels particularly close to Kisa.





Chapter 72

Fruits Basket™



AND
ALL THE
FEELINGS
FROM
BACK
THEN...

IS THAT
ALL YOU
WANTED
TO TALK
ABOUT?

VERY
WELL.
I'LL SEE
YOU
THEN.

...HAD THE
SAME
CHILL IT
ALWAYS
HAD.

I'M
VERY
BUSY
MYSELF.

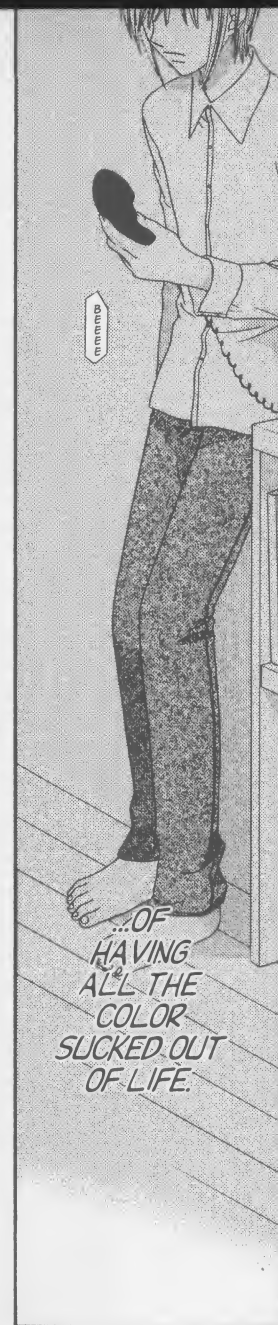
IT'S NOT
LIKE YOU
HAVE ANY
CONFLICT ON
THAT DAY,
RIGHT?

EVEN
THROUGH
THE
RECEIVER,
MY
MOTHER'S
VOICE...

...CAME
FLOODING
BACK TO
ME.

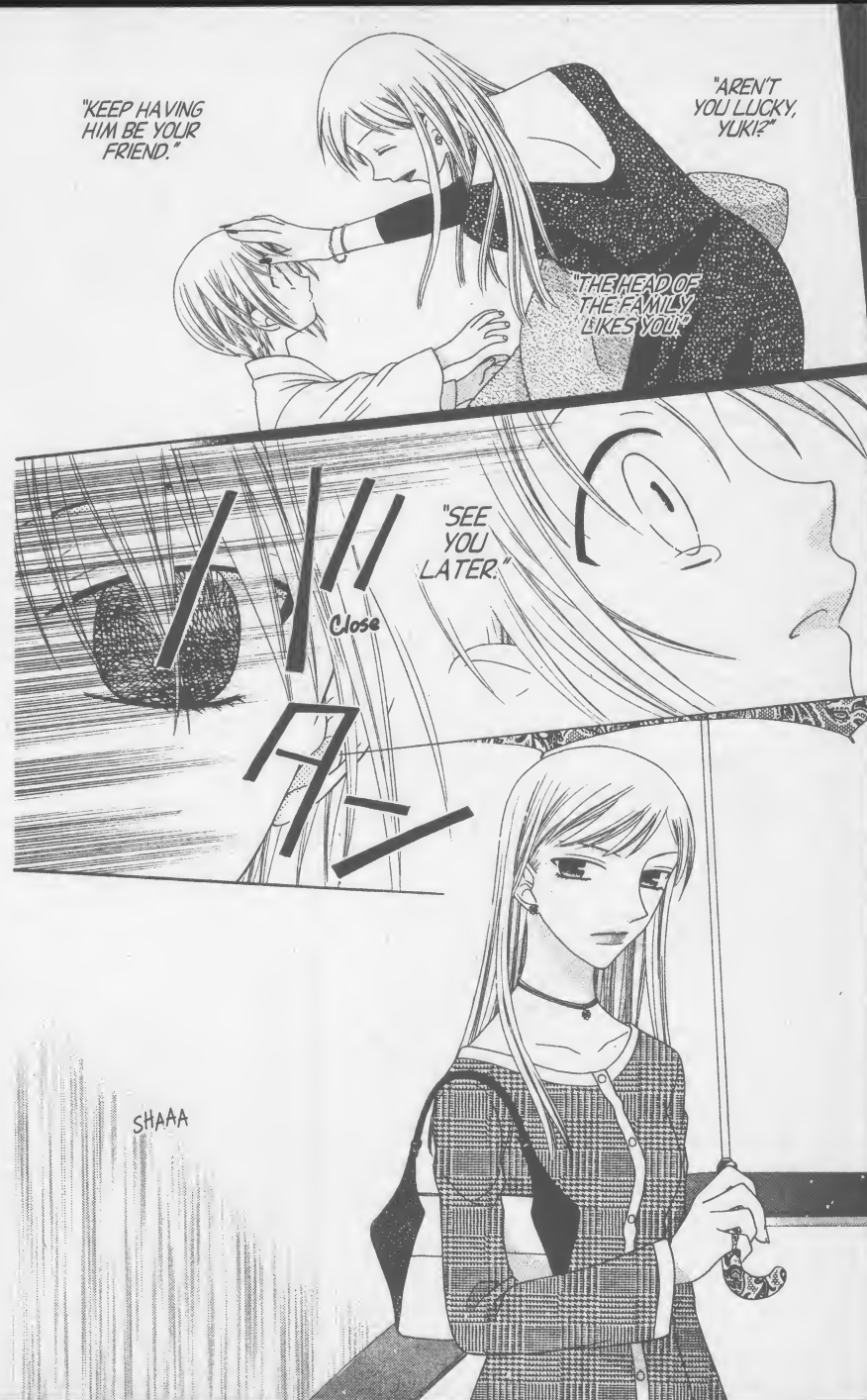
Filler
sketch

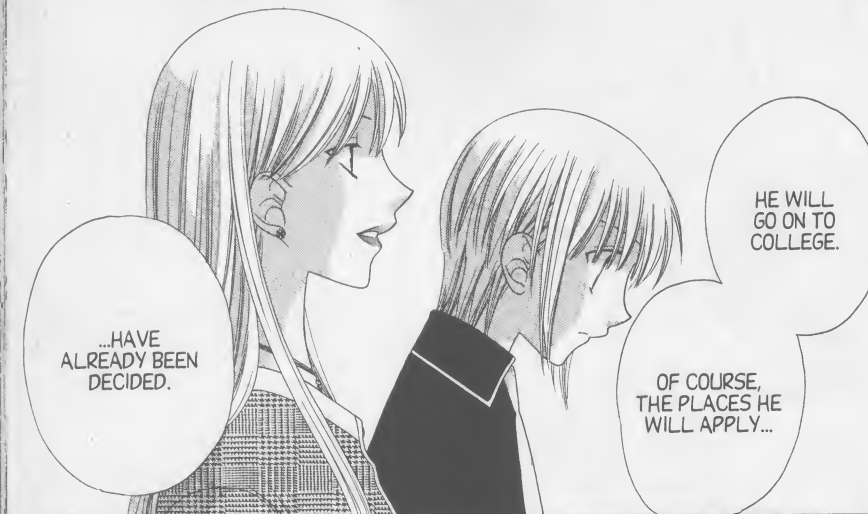




Fruits Basket 13
Part 1

Hajimemashite and konnichiwa! Takaya here. Rin gets the cover this time. Actually, I get the strong feeling that it would have been better for her to be on #14... Volume 14 focuses on her more, and she's not even in this one! (laugh) But...well...it can't be helped. At first, I thought of giving Rin short hair, but then I said to myself, "When I think of a horse, I think of the mane blowing in the wind." And so she got her long hair. I regret it a little. The ink! The ink! Anyway, this is the celebrated 13th volume. Please enjoy it!





...HAVE
ALREADY BEEN
DECIDED.

HE WILL
GO ON TO
COLLEGE.

OF COURSE,
THE PLACES HE
WILL APPLY...



HUH
...?

IT'S ALREADY
BEEN DECIDED
THAT YUKI WILL
STAND AT THE
TOP OF THE
SOHMA FAMILY
ONE DAY.

IT WOULD
BE DISGRACE-
FUL IF HE
DIDN'T HAVE
A SUITABLE
ACADEMIC
BACKGROUND.

WAIT
...!

WAIT.
WHAT ARE
YOU...?

HOW COULD
YOU JUST
DECIDE THIS
ON YOUR
OWN?

MOTHER!

YOU
CAN'T JUST
ASSUME
WITHOUT
ASKING ME!



I HOPE
WE'RE NOT
LATE.

SHAAA

NOT AT
ALL.

REALLY?

I'M GLAD.



WELL...
THERE'S
NO NEED GO
OVER IT
AGAIN.

WELL
THEN,
I DON'T
MEAN
TO BE
RUDE...

...BUT CAN
WE GET THIS
CONFERENCE
OVER WITH?

I'D RATHER
NOT WASTE
TIME.

BY WHICH
YOU MEAN...?



I HAVE TO PUT THEM INTO WORDS.

MY OWN...

...THOUGHTS.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

I HAVE TO SAY IT.

...YOU ARE STRIKING YOUR CHILD WITH HURTFUL WORDS.

MS. SOHMA, PLEASE STOP.

RIGHT NOW...

HURRY.

I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT AT ALL.

GIVE THEM FORM.

NO.

OH...PERHAPS I UPSET YOU WHEN I SAID "UNDISTINGUISHED."

HURRY.

THEY CAN BE SO SELFISH...

HURRY.

LIKE THIS BOY.

IT'S NOT EASY HAVING CHILDREN.

YOU'RE STILL SINGLE, CORRECT? IT MUST BE NICE TO BE SO CAREFREE.

HURRY.



YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD CHOOSE YOUR OWN HIGH SCHOOL AND YOU PICKED THIS UNDISTINGUISHED PLACE.

I'M DECIDING FOR YOU.

MY GOD, YUKI.

YOU REALLY NEVER HAVE HAD...

IF ALL YOU WANT TO DO IS DISOBEY ME, THEN BE QUIET.

IF YOU DON'T GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER SOON, IT WILL CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR ME, TOO.

MS. SOHMA...

...A WORTH-WHILE THOUGHT OF YOUR OWN, HAVE YOU?

MS. SOHMA ...

BUT IT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT?

YOU CAN'T DECIDE ANYTHING ON YOUR OWN, CAN YOU?



...A
TOOL
?

YOUR
TOOL?

EVER SINCE
YOU WERE
LITTLE, I HAVE
NEVER ONCE
HEARD YOU SAY
YOU HATE IT.

I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
YOU'RE TALKING
ABOUT, YUKI.

AM I...

SO WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING?



WHEN WE
FOUGHT OVER
WHETHER OR
NOT HE WOULD
APPLY TO THIS
SCHOOL...

...HE WOULD
SULK AND GIVE
ME THE SILENT
TREATMENT.

NO, I DIDN'T...



IT'S NOT
SUDDEN.

BUT IT'S
WEIRD...

YOU
SUDDENLY
SAYING SUCH
THINGS.

I JUST
WANT TO GO
TO AN OUTSIDE
SCHOOL.

THAT'S
NOT IT,
MOTHER.

I ALWAYS
HAVE...AND
I ALWAYS
WILL.

I HATE
IT HERE
WITH THE
SOHMAS.

NOBODY
PUT ME UP
TO THIS.

SHE'S THE ONE WHO
MADE ME THINK...

...I SHOULD
NEVER PUT
MY FEELINGS
INTO WORDS
AGAIN!

open

...WORDS ARE
MEANINGLESS.

THEY'RE
POWERLESS.

SHE WON'T
LET THEM
REACH HER,
AND THEN...

...THEY
DIE.

AGAINST
HER...

WHAT IF
YOU ARE A
TOOL?

WHAT
ON EARTH
IS YOUR
PROBLEM?!

GIVE ME
A BREAK!
I DON'T NEED
ANY MORE
IDIOTS. AYAME
IS ENOUGH!

THE HEAD OF
THE FAMILY
LIKES YOU--
WHAT MORE
DO YOU NEED?!





I HAVE NEVER BEEN SO INSULTED!

WH--!

YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT I GO THROUGH!

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, LECTURING ME?! YOU'RE TALKING TO YOUR MOTHER!!

IF THIS IS HOW YOU'RE GOING TO TREAT ME, I WISH I HADN'T GIVEN BIRTH TO EITHER OF YOU!!



LEAVE HER BE.

I DON'T IMAGINE THAT WORDS WOULD HAVE ANY EFFECT ON HER WHEN SHE'S SO ANGRY.

"PLEASE DO YOUR BEST."



YUKI, YOU SEE...

WHEN DID YOU TWO...

My, my!

...GET SO...

DOES IT SHOW THAT WE ARE BROTHERS BURNING WITH LOVE?!

SNAP

DO YOU NOT REALIZE?

...HAS GIVEN US A CHANCE...

...TO DO THINGS RIGHT.



IN RESPECT TO YOU AS WELL...

...WHAT WAS ONCE NOTHING IS BEGINNING TO CHANGE INTO SOMETHING.

DO YOU NOT SEE IT? RIGHT NOW...

...YOU ARE JUST AS I WAS THEN.

NOT REALIZING HOW MUCH YOU HAVE TRAMPLED...

...ON WHAT'S IMPORTANT.

NOT TO WORRY!
BUT THANK YOU
FOR YOUR EFFORT.
MY MOTHER IS
AN INTERESTING
PERSON, IS
SHE NOT?

SHE POSSESSES
THE PECULIAR
SENSIBILITY OF
LIKING MONEY AND
SOCIAL STATUS.

BUT IT PAINS ME
TO SAY THAT SHE
IS COMPLETELY
UNABLE TO ADAPT
TO MY INNATE ROYAL
CHARACTER.

YEAH... Even though she's my mother.

HE'S GONNA
GET MAD AT
YOU AGAIN,
YOU KNOW?

JUST WAIT 'TIL
YOU HEAR THIS,
TORI-SAN!

ANYWAY,
I DIDN'T
THINK YOU'D
MAKE IT.

tap tap tap tap tap

We changed the date.

Sending a text message

NOT HIM
AGAIN...

OH, MAN...

I HEARD
FROM
GURE-SAN.

TMP
TMP
TMP

...HE SAID
YOU'RE
RELIABLE.

BUT...

THAT IS WHY
ALL OF MOTHER'S
HOPES AND
DREAMS BECAME
FOCUSED
EXCLUSIVELY
ON YUKI.

WHILE
THE ONLY
FEELING SHE
HAD FOR HER
HOPELESS AND
DREAMING SON
WAS REGRET.

MY, MY...
ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT?

I'LL...

...BE
BACK.

NII-SAN...

THANKS...

...FOR
COMING...

...TODAY.

"PLEASE
DO YOUR
BEST."

I THOUGHT
THAT EVERY-
THING WAS
OVER

OTHERS
MIGHT
LAUGH!

BACK
THEN...

...IF THEY
HEARD ME
SAY THIS...

...WHEN SHE
ABANDONED
ME...

...WHEN SHE
THREW ME
AWAY...

...BUT I
REALLY
THOUGHT...

...EVERY-
THING
LOST ITS
COLOR.

WAS SHE
ALWAYS
SO SMALL?

HER
SHOULDER
...

...IS SO
THIN.

WHEN I WAS
YOUNGER,
SHE ALWAYS
SEEMED
SO BIG.

Gasp!

WAIT
UP!

MOTHER
...

WHAT
...?

THIS
PERSON...

...YOU'RE
RUINING
YOUR LIFE.

I JUST WANT
YOU TO KNOW,
THE WAY
THINGS ARE
GOING...

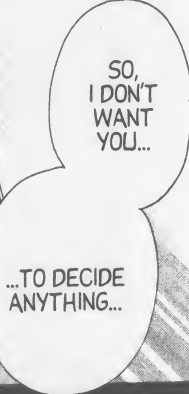
WAIT!



I DON'T WANT
YOU DECIDING MY
FATE FOR ME.

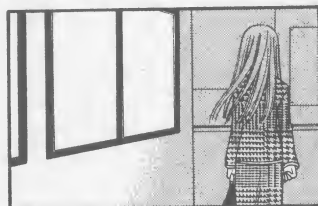


...WITHOUT
ASKING ME.



SO,
I DON'T
WANT
YOU...

...TO DECIDE
ANYTHING...



gulp

....



I WILL
GO ON TO
COLLEGE...

...AND AS FOR
WHERE I'LL
APPLY...

...I'LL THINK
ABOUT THAT
ON MY OWN.



...BUT I THINK
I'M READY TO
MAKE THAT
EFFORT.

TO DO THAT,
I KNOW I'M
GOING TO HAVE
TO PUT FORTH
AN EFFORT...

...AND
BE PART
OF IT.

I WANT
TO LIVE...

...TO LIVE...
IN THIS
WORLD...

THE
RESULT...



...MIGHT BE
SOMETHING
THAT YOU
DON'T LIKE...

...SOMETHING
THAT I CAN BE
PROUD OF.

...BUT
I WANT IT
TO BE...



...IT WILL GO
OUT WITH THE
SLIGHTEST
WIND...

PROOF
THAT, EVEN
THOUGH
IT'S SO
SMALL
IT SEEMS
LIKE...

...THE
WARMTH
IN MY
HEART...

...IS PROOF
THAT THERE
REALLY IS
A LIGHT IN
THERE.

...IT DEFINITELY
IS BURNING.

==REZZEE!!==

COME BACK
SAFELY...

EVEN
IF THE
RAIN
STOPS...

BUT...

...AND TELLS
ME THAT
WINTER IS
COMING.

...THE WIND IS
UNPLEASANTLY
COLD...



Chapter 73



Mine-neesan



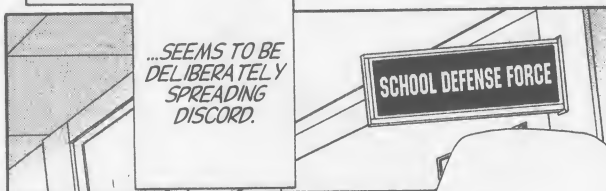
She can keep up with Aaya's tension... Well, at least she can play along with it! She's an amazing person. Since she's in sync with him, they have conversations in a language that only the two of them understand, and everyone around them gets confused. But I haven't drawn a proper episode with her and Aaya, so talking about it is kind of... When she first appeared, a friend of mine said, "Her braids look heavy." She's right--they really do look heavy! (laugh)



GET BACK
HERE RIGHT
NOW!!!

I'M
TERRIBLY
SORRY, BUT
I'M IN A
HURRY.
♡

THE SECOND
YEAR SECRE-
TARY, KIMI
TOLDOL!!



...SEEMS TO BE
DELIBERATELY
SPREADING
DISCORD.



WHAT DO YOU
MEAN BY THAT
RIDICULOUS
SIGN?!!

IT'S BLATANT
STUPIDITY!!

AND HOW COULD
YOU GUYS HAVE
MESSED UP THIS
ROOM ALREADY?
I JUST CLEANED
IT UP!! MY HEAD
HURTS...



Eehhh?

IT'S ALL RIGHT.
KIMI IS ALWAYS
A GOOD GIRL!

OH! That's
right!

HE'S A GENTLE
FLOWER, AND
YOU SHOULD
TREAT HIM
ACCORDINGLY.

HOW DO
I SAY
THIS...?
IT SEEMS
LIKE THE
ENTIRE
STUDENT
COUNCIL...

...IS A
COLLECTION
OF PROBLEM
CHILDREN.

THANK YOU
FOR THE
CANDY THE
OTHER DAY!

TOLDOL-
SAN...SURELY
YOU ARE NOT
CAUSING ANY
PROBLEMS
FOR YUKI?

...ENJOYED
EATING IT
TOGETHER.

Yun-Yun
and I...

COULD YOU...DO SOMETHING ABOUT HIM?

WELL...IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO ASK THE STUDENT COUNCIL.

IT WILL BE A PLEASURE TO WORK WITH YOU.

N-NO, THE PLEASURE IS OURS!!

AH...

UM... PRESIDENT...

THE SECOND YEAR VICE PRESIDENT, KAKERU MANABE--HIS PROBLEM...

GOING AROUND INTRODUCING OURSELVES TO THE CLUBS IS TACKY.

NOT TO MENTION BOORING.

...I THINK IS OBVIOUS.

AW...BUT I'M SLEEPY!

THE FIRST YEAR SECRETARY, NAOHITO SAKURAGI, IS ALWAYS ON EDGE.

YOU TOO, KURAGI--DON'T TOSS YOUR THINGS ALL OVER THE PLACE AND WALK OFF!!

YOU'VE HELPED THEM TO BLOOM BEAUTIFULLY.

TH--! THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Not as beautiful as you...

WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH CLUB MEMBERS--I'M SORRY WE COULDN'T DO BETTER.

The real fine Yuki-kun...

NOT AT ALL... I SEE YOU'RE WORKING VERY HARD.

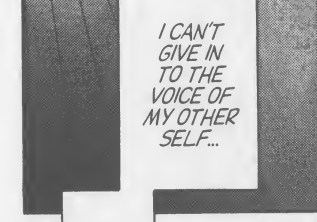
THE FIRST YEAR TREASURER, MACHI KURAGI, IS ALWAYS LOOKING DOWN...

...AND HARDLY SAYS A WORD TO ANYONE.

HOW LONG WILL THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT KEEP GOING AROUND GREETING PEOPLE?

BUT...





SCHOOL DEFENSE FORCE
MEMBER COLOR
ASSIGNMENTS

Black→

LET'S
SEE...

IS IT
OKAY FOR
TEACHERS TO
DO THAT?

Sheesh...

Nice
work!

THAT'S
OUR LITTLE
SEDUCTRESS!! IT
REALLY IS NICE
TO HAVE BRAND
NEW STUFF!

GOOD
GRIEF...

DOESN'T OUR
NEW BOARD
MAKE YOU
WANT TO HAVE
A MEETING?!

ACTUALLY,
THERE'S
SOMETHING
I WANTED TO
DISCUSS!!

WHAT?

Can I write on it?

THIS GUY IS
EVEN MORE
HOPELESS THAN
I THOUGHT.

DON'T
MAKE ME
PARTICIPATE
IN YOUR
POINTLESS
SHENANIGANS!

Don't
ask
!!!

Okay!

IF THERE'S
A COLOR
YOU WANT,
GO AHEAD
AND SHOUT
IT OUT!



Oh!

SO IT WAS
CHIBI-SUKE'S
DOING,
DAMMIT!!

DIVINE
PUNISH-
MENT!!

OUCH!

CHOP

WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?!
YOU'RE
DISGRACING
THE STUDENT
COUNCIL!!

Cease
and
desist!

We're
back!

Stop
making up
words!

I DON'T
WANNA!
IT'S
HEPPU!



HUH?

WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

It was a
work of
art!

DID YOU
THROW IT
AWAY, YUN-
YUN? THAT'S
GOING TO
FAR...

IF YOU'RE
TALKING
ABOUT THAT
BLATANTLY
STUPID SIGN,
I THREW IT
OUT.



I JUST
COAXED
SENSEI INTO
GIVING ME
HIS.

♥

IT WAS
EASY!

Ha ha ha.
Well, all
right.

Please.
Sensei?
Don't be
mean!

WHAT...
HOW?!

HUH?!

WE GOT A
BRAND-NEW
WHITEBOARD!

Look, look,
Yun-Yun!

♥

Black



YUN-YUN WON'T CALL ME BY NAME! HE WON'T CALL ME KIMI!

Even though we ate candy together!

HOW MEAN!

NO, NO! PINK IS KIMI! KIMI!!!

KIMI IS BETTER SUITED FOR PINK, AND SHE LIKES PINK! NO!! IT'S DECIDED!!

OKAY, I GET IT, I GET IT!

UH...UM, TOUNDU-SAN, CALM DOWN...

But you got worked up about it once your self...

IT'S ONLY A COLOR. YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET SO WORKED UP.

Right?

CALM DOWN, K-KIMI...!



WHAT COLOR DO YOU LIKE, KURAGI-SAN?

CUT IT OUT ALREADY!! ARE YOU ALL MORONS?!

MAYBE... YOU SHOULD SAY SOMETHING?

The one who calls people morons is a moron, moron, moron!



Right!

I GET DIBS ON BLACK!! IT'S COOL AND STEALTHY-LIKE ME!

I look striking against a sun-set or leaves.

WHEN THE MEMBERS ARE IN DANGER, I'LL MAKE MY ENTRANCE FROM ATOP A TREE!!

WHO'S "COOL" ...?

In danger?

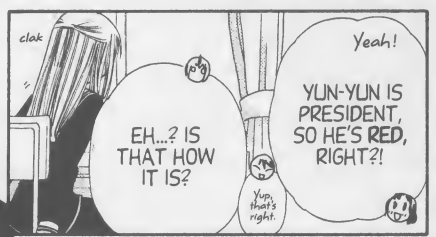


IT DOES TOO HAVE A POINT! THIS IS SUPER IMPORTANT.

SERIOUSLY, NAO. DO YOU HAVE ZERO REALIZATION THAT YOU'RE ON THE SCHOOL DEFENSE FORCE?

C'mon, I'm begging you, man!

DO YOU HAVE ANY REALIZATION THAT YOU'RE THE VICE PRESIDENT?



Yeah!

YUN-YUN IS PRESIDENT, SO HE'S RED, RIGHT?!

EH...? IS THAT HOW IT IS?

Yun, that's right.



Oh!

WHAT'LL WE DO ABOUT PINK?

IT'S THE ONLY REALLY GIRLY COLOR.

YOU TWO WANNA DO ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS FOR IT?

Machi and Kimi.

EEHH ?!



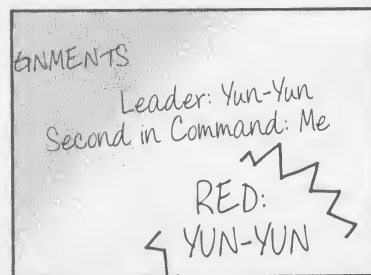
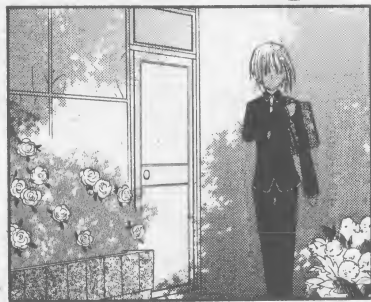
NAO IS YELLOW.

HE LIKES CURRY.

DON'T JUST GO AND DECIDE!

WHY CURRY...?

Yun doesn't know about Power Rangers. By the way, there's no black.



SCHOOL DEFENSE FORCE
MEMBER COLOR
ASSIGNMENTS

~~Black~~ → Me
Muddy → S
Pink → K

leader Y

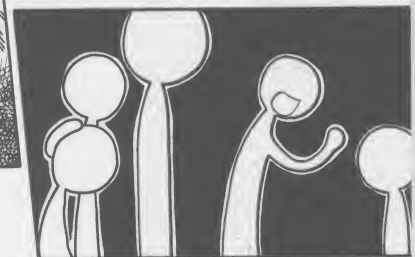
A AH!!

I'M SORRY!!
THAT'S RIGHT!!
I WAS THE ONE
WHO BROUGHT
IT UP!!



DON'T YOU
THINK THAT
THE VERY FACT
THAT WE'RE
DISCUSSING
COLORS AT
ALL...

...IS
COMPLETELY
STUPID?!





Th--
THANK
YOU VERY
MUCH...!

Mm-
hm.

YUN!

YUN-

HUH...?
YOU'RE
STILL
HERE?

WHAT
ABOUT
YOU, YUN-
YUN?

ARE YOU
VOLUN-
TEERING?

UH...UM,
ARE YOU
SURE YOU'RE
OKAY...

...WITH
HELPING
OUT LIKE
THIS...?

I DON'T MIND.
YOU DON'T
HAVE ENOUGH
MEMBERS,
RIGHT?

I JUST NEED
TO CARRY
THIS, RIGHT?



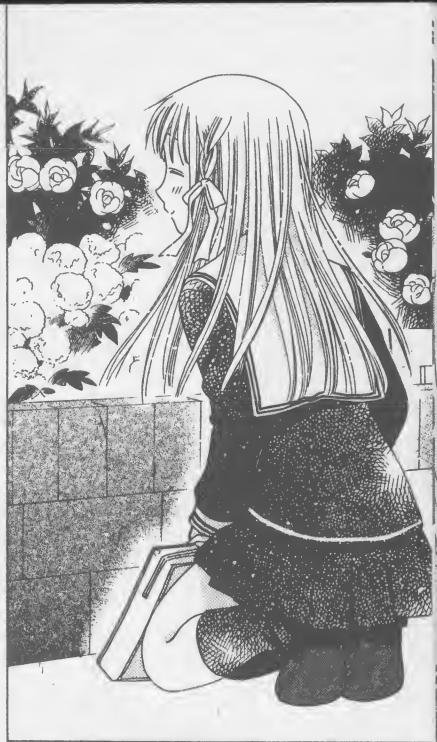
HEEEY!

HEY,
NABE.

WANNA GO
GRAB A BITE
TO EAT?

Crap,
I don't
have any
money.

MM...



BUT THAT
KYO GUY
SEEMS
KIND OF...

...YOU
KNOW...
HAPPIER.

I AM RIGHT?!
I WAS RIGHT?!
IT'S TRUE?!

...YEAH.

THAN YOU,
I MEAN.

...YOU'RE
SAYING
I'M...

DO YOU
ENJOY
THAT?

...
"UNHAPPY"?

....
THEN...

DO YOU
LIKE HER?

THAT
GIRL?

WHAT'S YOUR
RELATIONSHIP
WITH HER?

YEAH...
SORT OF.

...YOU WERE
WITH THAT
TOHRU
HONDA GIRL,
RIGHT?

HEY...
EARLIER...

...BECAUSE
SHE'S
FRIENDS
WITH YUN-
YUN.

SHE'S
SECRETLY
FAMOUS...

...I THOUGHT
IT MIGHT BE
A PAINFUL
LOVE.

NNN?
WELL,
'CUZ IF
YOU DID...

WHY?

...

HE KINDA
LOOKS LIKE HE
COULD BE HER
BOYFRIEND.

YUN-YUN'S
COUSIN.

'CUZ, YOU
KNOW, THE
ORANGE GUY...
KYO, IS IT?



"IT DOESN'T
MAKE ME
HAPPY."

kick

WHA
...?!

IS--

SHUT
UP!!

WHAT
ARE
YOU, MY
MOTHER
?!

ISN'T
THAT WHAT
LOSING
IT IS?!

YOU'RE
REALLY
PISSING ME
OFF, LOSING
IT LIKE
THAT.

WHAT'S YOUR
PROBLEM,
MAN? IS
YOUR HEAD
BOILING?

WHO'S LOSING
IT?! THERE'S
NO REASON TO
TAKE IT OUT ON
GIRLS' PLANTS!

I HAVEN'T
LOST IT. I'M
PISSED ABOUT
HAVING TO TAKE
YOUR HIGH-
AND-MIGHTY
LECTURE.

DOES THIS
MAKE YOU
HAPPY?!

...JUDGING
MYSELF BY
OTHERS' IDEAS
OF HAPPINESS.

IT DOESN'T
MAKE ME
HAPPY...

"HAVING
WON..."

...LIKE
THAT."

SAYING
THIS
ONE IS
"HAPPY"
...

...AND THIS
ONE IS
"UNHAPPY"?

DO YOU
LIKE
PUTTING
PEOPLE ON
YOUR
SCALES
AND...

...MEASURING
THEIR WORTH
BY YOUR
CONCEPT OF
HAPPINESS?

DO YOU ENJOY
BEING ABLE
TO DECIDE?



YOU'RE ...

...RIGHT.



I'M THE ONE WHO LOST IT.

...I'M SORRY.



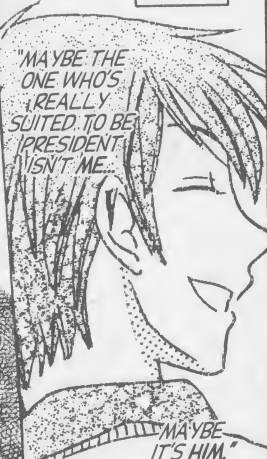
...IS ME.

THE BIGGEST PROBLEM CHILD...

...I WANT TO GIVE IN TO THAT VOICE.

THAT'S RIGHT.

MAYBE THE ONE WHO'S REALLY SUITED TO BE PRESIDENT ISN'T ME...



MAYBE IT'S HIM.

THAT'S WHAT THE VOICE WHISPERS IN MY EAR.

AS SOON AS THINGS GET TOUGH...



YEAH, WELL, BETTER THAN A PRICK WHO ACTS LIKE HE KNOWS EVERYTHING!!

I BET YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS, IGNORAMUS!!

YOUR MOTHER?! DON'T SAY DISGUSTING THINGS LIKE THAT?!

YOU'RE RIGHT!!

I'M THE ONE WHO'S DISGUSTED-BY WHAT A PRUDE YOU ARE!!



AS SOON AS...

...I COMPARE MYSELF TO OTHERS

SO, SORRY!!

...I START GIVING IN TO MY FEELINGS OF INFERIORITY.

I FEEL AS IF I'M GOING TO BE EXTINGUISHED.

I AM THAT KIND OF PERSON!

BUT JUST NOW, I WAS LECTURING AT MYSELF!

YOU'RE
LUCKY...

...YUKI.

YOU
UNDER-
STAND.

YOU'RE
LUCKY.

...

YOU
SURPRISED
ME...

...BECAUSE
YOU SAID THE
SAME THINGS...
THAT PERSON
DOES.

I WAS
TAKEN OFF
GUARD...
SO I GOT
PISSED.

BUT...

THE ENEMY
THAT I
SHOULD BE
FIGHTING IS
ALWAYS...

...INSIDE
MYSELF.

FOR ME,
THE
"EVIL"...

...IS THAT
PART OF
MYSELF.

...HEY.

...BEFORE
I HURT
THEM?

...MAYBE
I COULD
UNDERSTAND
OTHER
PEOPLE'S
FEELINGS...

IF I
COULD MAKE
MYSELF SEE
FROM THEIR
VIEWPOINT
...

...SO I CAN
SEE THE
SAME
THING?

WHERE
SHOULD
I STAND...

...SORT OF
MADE ME
WANT TO
CRY.

PICK
THEM UP
YOURSELF.

What?

Don't say
things
that'll
make me
not want
to do it
anymore.

IT TOOK
EVERY-
THING
I HAD TO
HOLD
BACK THE
TEARS.

THE
WAY HE
MUMBLED
IT...

"YOU'RE
LUCKY."

...WITH-
OUT ANY
PRETENSE...

HOW?

OH
NO!

THE
SEEDLINGS!
THE SEEDLINGS!
WHAT DID
YOU DO?!

Oops!
Sorry
about that.
I'm the
culprit!

I know
there's no
that!
even the
president
would do
that!

Hey!
That's
hush.

HOW AM
I LUCKY?

It's fine,
it's fine.
I'll replant
them all!

I DON'T
GET IT.

Really?
But...

AND WHO
IS "THAT
PERSON"...

It's
fine,
it's
fine.

ISN'T
THAT
RIGHT,
LEADER?!

...WHO SAID
THE SAME
THINGS
AS ME?

THE STUDENT
COUNCIL EXISTS
TO HELP THE
STUDENTS!



Chapter 74



...OR AT LEAST, I'M STARTING TO THINK THAT.



BEING AROUND HIM MIGHT NOT BE SUCH A BAD THING AFTER ALL...



I'M SO SORRY...

...MOMIJI.

WHY?

I WONDER WHY?

草摩

...I CAME TO THE SOHMA ESTATE.

IN THE END...

*nameplate: Sohma



...IS ALREADY CURIOUS ABOUT YOU.

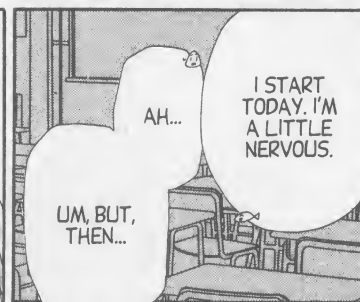
I'M NOT TELLING YOU TO STOP.

JUST...

IF YOU HAVE THE SAME TEACHER, THEN IT COULD... YOU KNOW...

I'M SORRY.

MOMO...



Satsuki Maman



Hiro's always-smiling mother. There have been various mothers in this series, but she seems to be the happiest, so... I wanted to draw her (laugh). Maybe it's because Hiro saw his mother being like that that he thought, "I have to be strong!" But he overdid it and became the sharp-tongued lad we know and love. The baby is due to be born around spring-time. (In the series, we're currently in autumn.)



FROM THE SOHMA FAMILY...?!

KURENO-SAN...

KURE... NO?

Kureno...? Is that his surname...?

Eh? What else?

THIS IS KURENO SOHMA.



EH! AH!

Um...

YOU KNOW HIM?!

DID YOU SAY "SOHMA"? NO WAY! LIKE KYON?! WHAT WAS HE LIKE?! WHERE DID YOU MEET HIM?!



WHAT COLOR WERE HIS EYES?! AND HIS HAIR?!



FEELING LIKE THAT... IT'S NOT ME.

EVERY TIME A CUSTOMER WOULD COME THROUGH THE DOOR...

...I WOULD HALF-EXPECT IT TO BE HIM AND I'D GET ALL EXCITED.

I GUESS I'M JUST TIRED...

BUT THEN, WHEN IT TURNED OUT IT WASN'T HIM, PART OF ME GOT DEPRESSED.

...OF ABUSING MYSELF.



HIS NAME'S KURENO-SAN.

Eh?

HUH? SORRY, DIDN'T I TELL YOU?

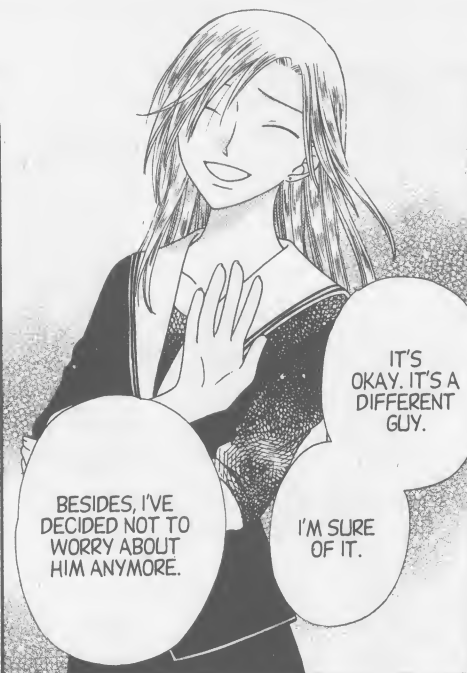
IF YOU AT LEAST KNEW HIS NAME...



SORRY FOR COMPLAINING.



THANKS.



IT'S
OKAY. IT'S A
DIFFERENT
GUY.

BESIDES, I'VE
DECIDED NOT TO
WORRY ABOUT
HIM ANYMORE.

I'M SURE
OF IT.



KURENO?

I DON'T
REALLY
KNOW HIM
EITHER.

ALL I'VE HEARD
IS THAT HE'S
AKITO'S PERSONAL
ASSISTANT OR
SOMETHING.



UO-CHAN...



THAT'S A
DIFFERENT GUY.
KURENO-SAN
WAS TOTALLY
SPACEY.

HE WOULDN'T
EVEN NOTICE IF
HE STEPPED IN
DOG CRAP.

ARISA...
I WONDER
IF THAT
ANALOGY
MIGHT NOT
BE TOO MUCH...

HE HAD
PRETTY
BROWN EYES
AND HAIR.

HE SEEMED
VERY CALM...
AND...COOL.



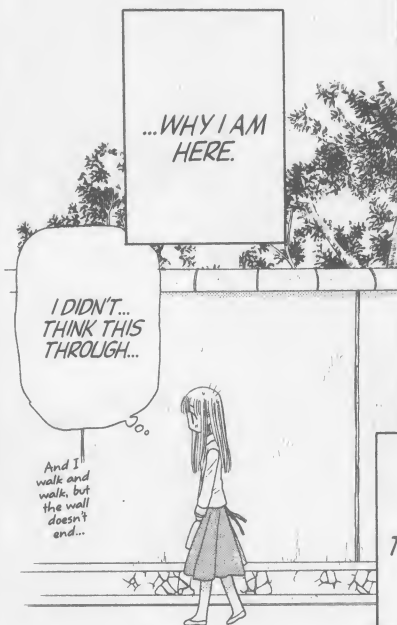
I...I MIGHT
HAVE
JUDGED HIM
POORLY...

FORGET
IT.

ISN'T IT
WORTH
MAKING
SURE?!

IT COULD
STILL BE HIM,
COULDN'T IT?!

B--
BUT...!



...WHY I AM HERE.

I DIDN'T... THINK THIS THROUGH...

And I walk and walk, but the wall doesn't end...

EVER SINCE UO-CHAN MENTIONED HIS NAME, I'VE BEEN RESTLESS.

AND THAT'S...

WHEN SOMEONE IMPORTANT TO ME IS WORRIED...

...I CAN'T THINK THAT.



I CAN'T NOT TRY TO HELP!



THIS IS TOHRU HONDA. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE KURENO-SAN...

I'M BEING...

I COULDN'T POSSIBLY INTRUDE ON THEM LIKE THAT...

AND IF KURENO-SAN WERE TO BE SCOLDED BY AKITO-SAN ON MY BEHALF ...

AAHH! BUT, BUT--!

MAYBE IT REALLY IS A DIFFERENT PERSON.

BUT THEN I MIGHT HAVE HAD TO EXPLAIN ABOUT UO-CHAN.

MAYBE I REALLY SHOULD HAVE CONSULTED SOMEONE ABOUT THIS, FIRST...?

...RECK-LESS.



I...SEE...

APPARENTLY HE DOESN'T GO OUT IN PUBLIC MUCH, AND HE HARDLY EVEN ASSOCIATES WITH THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ZODIAC.

OF COURSE, HE'S NEVER EVEN SPOKEN TO ME.



Did Kyo know that I met him at the summer house...?

Of course you would wonder!

H-H-E'S ONE OF THE ZODIAC, SO I WAS...UH... CURIOUS!

Y-YES! UM--!!

Yeah, that's it.

WHY ARE YOU ASKING ABOUT KURENO?

GASP!



BUT...

...KYO-KUN...

...GO NOSING AROUND TOO MUCH INTO THINGS YOU DON'T NEED TO KNOW ABOUT.

YOU SHOULDN'T ...

I WONDER
WHO'S
PLAYING...?

...A
VIOLIN.

IT
SOUNDS
...

...A
LITTLE
SAD.

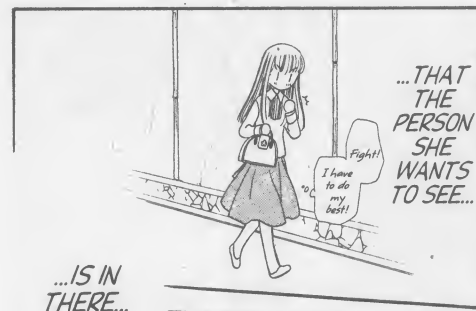
EH
?!!

I-I'M SO
SORRY!!

I WASN'T
WATCHING
WHERE I
WAS GOING...
ARE YOU ALL
RIGHT?!

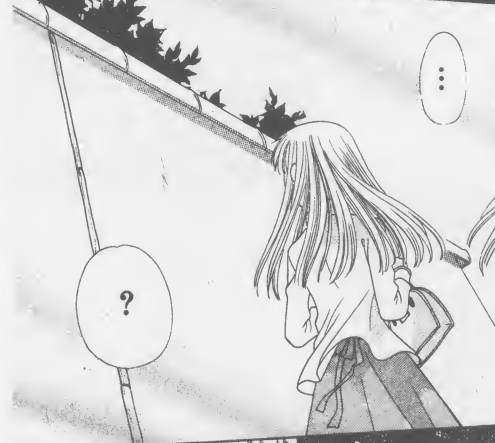
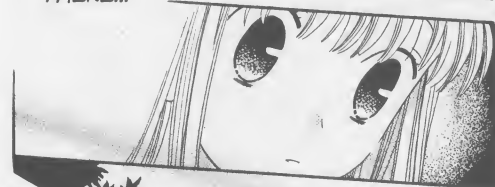
I'M
REALLY
VERY S--

BUMP



...THAT
THE
PERSON
SHE
WANTS
TO SEE...

...IS IN
THERE...



THIS
IS...

...COMING
FROM
"INSIDE."

THAT
SOUND...

...THE
SLIGHTEST
POSSIBILITY...

IF
THERE'S
EVEN...



HLH...?

UM...YES, HE
IS A FRIEND
OF MINE...

YOU
CAN'T...

...GET
"INSIDE,"
CAN YOU?

SHE KNOWS
ABOUT
MOMIJI-
KUN...?

ARE
YOU HIS
FRIEND?

DID YOU
COME TO
SEE HIM?

THIS
WAY!

TUG

EH?!

THIS WAY,
THIS WAY!

THE
SECRET
ENTRANCE!

UM...!

MOMO WILL
SHOW YOU
THE WAY!

rustle

rustle

rustle



MOMIJI-
KUN'S--!

Gasp!

OH
NO!!

YOU...

YOU'RE
...

ONEE-CHAN...
YOU KNOW
HIM?

YOU KNOW
MOMIJI?

MOMO-SAN
DOESN'T KNOW
THAT SHE'S
MOMIJI-KUN'S
SISTER!!



BUT
I FOUND
IT...

...WHEN
I WAS
PLAYING IN
SECRET.

MOMIJI'S
HOUSE.

...SHE GOT
SURPRISED
AND SAID HE
DOESN'T LOOK
LIKE HER.

ON THAT
DAY...

PAPA SAID
I CAN'T SEE
HIM ANYMORE.



Ah...
um...
MOMO-SAN,
ARE YOU
ACQUAINTED
WITH...

...DO
YOU KNOW
MOMIJI-
KUN?

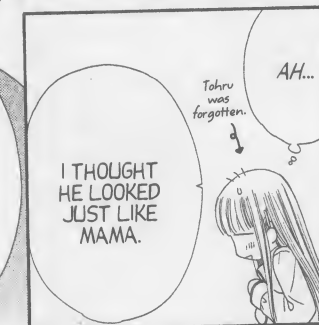


I KNOW
HIM.

I MET HIM.
ONCE.



IN PAPA'S
BUILDING.



Ah...
Tohru
was
forgotten.

I THOUGHT
HE LOOKED
JUST LIKE
MAMA.

If they catch
me, it would
mean a lot
of trouble for
everyone. If
security...

For me
to go in
this way...
would be...
trespassing!

HURRY!

squeeze

...

YOU CAN
GO IN FROM
HERE!

HERE!



RUSTLE

RUSTLE

MY FRIEND
FROM
"INSIDE"...

...TOLD ME
ABOUT THAT
PLACE.

THEN WE
CAN PLAY!

...SO I
COME IN
SECRETLY.

THEY WON'T
LET ME IN AT
THE FRONT...



Y-
YOU...

MOMIJI-
KUN...

...DON'T...
TALK TO
HIM...?

MOMIJI-
KUN...



OH, BUT ONEE-
CHAN, YOU'RE
HIS FRIEND,
RIGHT?

MOMO
SHOWED YOU
THE RIGHT
WAY, RIGHT?

MOMO-
SAN...



SO PLEASE
DO MOMO A
FAVOR.

ASK
MOMIJI...



UNH-UH.
'CUZ
PAPA...

...SAID
NOT TO.



...HE WAS
PLAYING THE
VIOLIN.



WHENEVER
I CAN...

...I COME TO
WATCH HIM.

I WATCH
HIM IN
SECRET.

ASK HIM,
OKAY?

YOU CAN
SEE HIM
EVERY
DAY...

...SO ASK
HIM...

MOMO...
WANTS A BIG
BROTHER...

...TO TALK
TO AND PLAY
WITH.

MOMO
STARTED
LEARNING TO
PLAY THE
VIOLIN...

...SO WE
COULD PLAY
TOGETHER.

I BET IT
WOULD
BE FUN.

'CUZ HE
LOOKS JUST
LIKE MAMA.

MAMA
SAID HE
DOESN'T...

...BUT HE
LOOKS
JUST LIKE
HER.

ASK MOMIJI
IF HE'LL BE
MOMO'S BIG
BROTHER!





SHE
WANTS...

BUT...
MOMO-
SAN...

...TO
SEE
YOU.

...
BUT
...



MOMO-
SAN...

ACTUALLY,
IT WAS
MOMO-SAN
WHO BROUGHT
ME ALL THE
WAY HERE.



IT'S TRUE.
IT'S REALLY
TRUE. MOMO-
SAN...

MOMO-SAN
KNEW ABOUT
YOU. ALL
THIS TIME...

ALL
THIS
TIME
...



HE'S AFRAID
THAT HE'LL
BE HURT...

...IF THEY
SEE ME.

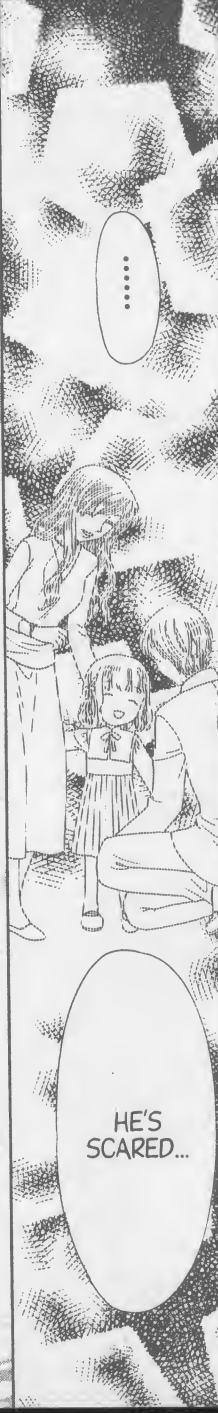


HE DOESN'T
WANT THE
HAPPINESS
HE WORKED
SO HARD TO
REBUILD...

...TO BE
DESTROYED.

HE
DOESN'T
...

...WANT TO
BE HURT
ANYMORE.



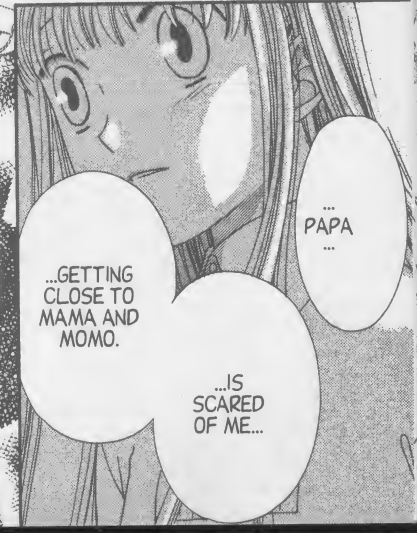
HE'S
SCARED...



MOMO
WANTED
TO LEARN TO
PLAY THE
VIOLIN, SO PAPA
WANTED HER
TO LEARN FROM
MY TEACHER
BECAUSE HE'S
FAMOUS.

SO PAPA
MADE
ME STOP
LEARNING
FROM HIM.

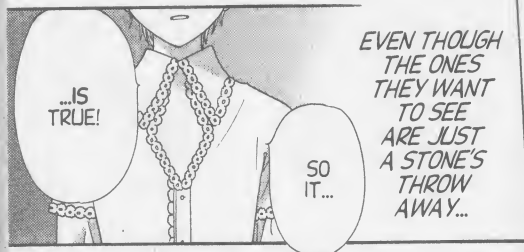
BUT
REALLY...



...PAPA
...

...GETTING
CLOSE TO
MAMA AND
MOMO.

...IS
SCARED
OF ME...



...THERE'S
SOMEONE
WHO WILL...

...CRY
FOR ME.

THANK
YOU...

...MOMO.

YOU'VE
MADE ME
SO HAPPY.

I'M SO
HAPPY...

...
BECAUSE
...

*I WANT TO
HELP THEM*

I WANT
TO BE A
VIOLINIST...

MY
DREAM,
YOU
KNOW?

IT'S TO BE A
VIOLINIST.

...AND HAVE
A SMALL
CONCERT...

AND...

...PAPA AND
MAMA AND
MOMO WILL
LISTEN TO
ME PLAY!

WHY?

WHY
CAN'T THEY
SEE EACH
OTHER?

WHY CAN'T
THEY LET
THEIR
FEELINGS
'GROW'?

TOHRU.



I WISH, NO
MATTER
WHAT IT
TAKES...

...WITH
ALL MY
HEART...

...THAT
MOMIJI-KUN
AND MOMO-
SAN CAN SEE
EACH OTHER...

...AND
THAT LUO-
CHAN CAN
REUNITE
WITH
KURENO-
SAN.

I SEE...

Chapter 75



I HAVE TO
SEE HIM...

I WANT
WITH ALL
MY HEART
TO HELP
THEM!

EVEN IF
I'M TOLD
IT'S NOT
MY PLACE
TO GET
INVOLVED.

...NO
MATTER
WHAT.

WHO DID
YOU COME
HERE TO
SEE?

SEE
WHO?

SEE...?

NO MATTER
WHAT.

I CAME
TO SEE...

...KURENO-
SAN.

AND MAYBE,
JUST MAYBE,
THAT PERSON
MEANS KURENO
SOHMA-SAN.

I HAVE
TO MAKE
SURE.

...FOR A
LONG TIME
TO SEE SOME-
ONE NAMED
"KURENO-SAN"
AGAIN.

THERE'S
SOMEONE
I KNOW WHO
HAS BEEN
WAITING...

I'LL
ONLY
TELL
MOMIJI-
KUN

I'M SORRY,
LUO-CHAN...

IT'S...NOTHING
SO KIND AS
THAT. I...
SELFISHLY...

FOR THAT
"SOMEONE"?

I WASN'T
ASKED TO, BUT
ON MY OWN, I
SELFISHLY...

...WANTED
TO...MAKE
SURE.

N--

NO...

...TO SEE
KURENO?

TOHRU,
YOU CAME
HERE...

BUT...

...WHY DO YOU
WANT TO SEE
KURENO?

Momo



Drawing small children is fun! As the creator, I think their brother/sister pairing is a miracle hit...but my opinions don't really matter. If only the day would come that Momitchi could stand tall and proudly proclaim that they are siblings... She would probably get quite the brother complex. Yes, I'm sure of it (laugh). Because it's Momitchi. I'm sure he would treasure her dearly.



AGAIN,
HE MIGHT
...

YOU
KNOW...



WHAT
WOULD YOU
DO IF SOME-
ONE FOUND
YOU ALONG
THE WAY?

...FOUND
YOU?

IF
AKITO...



MOMIJI-
KUN...

.....
!



KURENO,
YOU KNOW?

HE LIVES
IN A MANSION
FARTHER INSIDE,
AND WE DON'T
SEE HIM VERY
OFTEN.



SO SEEING
HIM MIGHT BE
DIFFICULT...



NO...



THE
CURSE...

I'LL GO
WITH YOU.

EH...?

EH?!



I'M
SO...

...SORRY
...

IT MIGHT
ONLY BE THE
MEMBERS OF
THE ZODIAC
THAT THINK
THAT.

IT MIGHT
BE PRETTY
EASY TO FOR
ANYONE ELSE
TO SEE HIM.

AKITO TOLD
US NOT TO SEE
HIM, SO THAT'S
WHAT WE DO.







THIS
VOICE...

AKITO

...IS
AKITO-
SAN'S.

IS SOME-
ONE...

...THERE?

...SAN...

WHAT...

WHAT
CAN I...

WHAT
SHOULD
I...

I DON'T HAVE
TIME TO BE
DEPRESSED!!

I CAME
HERE ON A
MISSION,
DIDN'T I?

THESE
THINGS KEEP
HAPPENING
BECAUSE I'M
NOT MORE
LEVEL-
HEADED.

...FROM
KURENO-SAN!

I'LL TRY
AGAIN!!

Uungh!

RUSTLE

...WHERE
IN THE
WORLD
AM I?

BUT...

WHO'S
THERE?

WHAT...

...AM
I DOING?

EH...?

KURENO-
SAN...!

...NO.

SO
THAT
ISN'T...

AKITO
WILL BE
WORRIED.

I MUST BE
GETTING
BACK.

...AKITO-
SAN?

IF
YOU'LL
EXCUSE
ME.

I THOUGHT
FOR SURE
THAT IT
WAS HIM.

WELL
THEN...

Pull

IT'S ME,
KURENO.

I WAS
PASSING
THROUGH...

...ON AN
ERRAND.

IT'S HIM.

DO YOU KNOW
AN ARISA
UOTANI-SAN?!

...UO-CHAN
REALLY
WANTS TO
SEE YOU!

IT SEEMS
LIKE...

THIS IS
UO-CHAN'S
KURENO-
SAN.

I...I'M
SORRY...

WHAT WERE
YOU DOING
THERE?

AND HOW
DID YOU GET
"INSIDE" TO
BEGIN WITH?

IF YOU CAME
IN WITHOUT
PERMISSION...

...THEN YOU
CAN'T COMPLAIN
IF I HAND YOU
OVER TO THE
POLICE.

PL--

PLEASE
WAIT! I
WANT TO--!

BEFORE
YOU HAND ME
OVER, PLEASE
LISTEN TO
WHAT I HAVE
TO SAY!

KURENO-
SAN...
KURENO-
SAN, DO
YOU...

...SO I
CAME TO
INVESTIGATE.

I HAD A
FEELING,
LIKE SOME-
ONE HAD
CALLED
ME...



...OF
SEEING
HER.

...NO
INTEN-
TION...

I HAVE
...



chirp
chirp



I...



IS...
THAT...

...BECAUSE
YOU ARE A
MEMBER
OF THE
ZODIAC...

...KURENO-
SAN?

NO.



THAT'S
NOT IT.
I...



BECAUSE
...

SHE EVEN
CHANGED
WHERE SHE
WORKS!

UO-CHAN...
UO-CHAN
WON'T...

...TALK MUCH
ABOUT IT,
BUT I KNOW
IT'S REALLY
BOTHERING
HER.

...SHE CAN'T
SEE YOU,
KURENO-SAN,
SHE'S BEEN
REALLY
SAD...



...AND
LONELY!





I'LL LET YOU GO.

...IT'S OKAY.



SINCE IT SEEMS THERE'S SOMEONE WORRIED ABOUT YOU.



OH...

HA HA!

UNFORTUNATELY, I DON'T HAVE ANY HANDCUFFS.



AH, UM... KURENO-SA...

A GIRL LIKE YOU...

...SHOULDN'T BE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.

NOW, GO.

MOMIJI-KUN...



I'LL HIDE IT HERE... OKAY?

S-SO THAT NO ONE ELSE WILL FIND IT.

...I'LL...



?

SWP



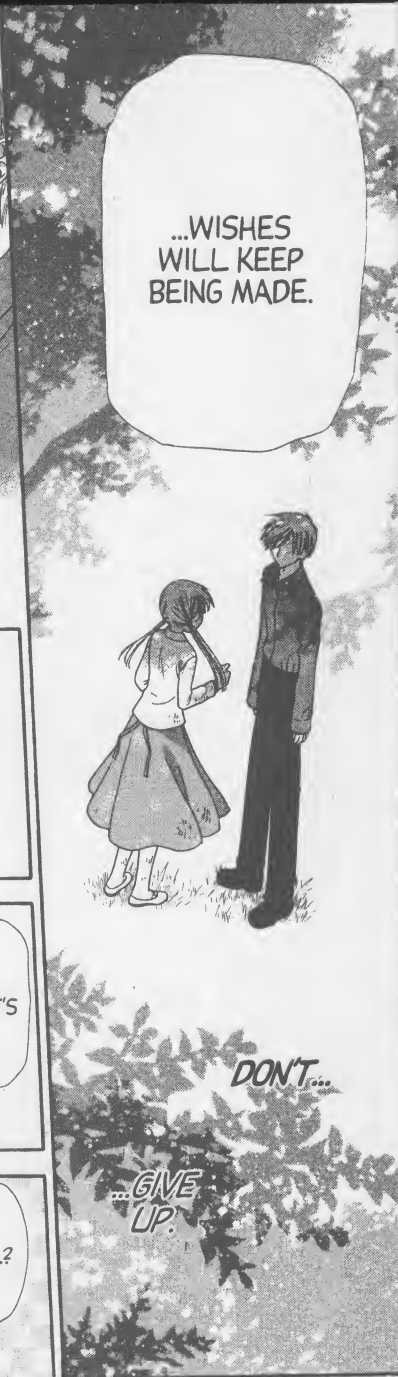
THAT'S ...

...ALL I WANTED TO SAY.



UH...

EH...?



...WISHES WILL KEEP BEING MADE.

DON'T...

...GIVE UP.

WISH...
UPON A
STAR.

WHAT
I...

...LIKE
...

WISH...

TOHRU...
YOU LIKE
THAT ONE?
"WHEN YOU
WISH UPON
A STAR"?

AH... UM,
JUST NOW...
IT CAME
INTO MY
HEAD.

Ah!

BUT, UM, IF IT'S
IMPOSSIBLE ON
THE VIOLIN, I'LL
CHOOSE A
DIFFERENT
ONE...

UH-
UH.

I'LL
PRACTICE.

I WISH...

HOW? IT'S NO
TROUBLE FOR
ME AT ALL!

TODAY,
I REALLY
CAUSED YOU
TROUBLE.

MOMIJI-
KUN...
TODAY...

BECAUSE
YOU TOLD ME
ABOUT MOMO,
I'M HAPPY!

HEY!
SOMEDAY
I'LL HAVE
A CONCERT
JUST FOR YOU,
TOHRU!!

I WANT
TO THANK
YOU.

...GOODBYE.

I FEEL
LIKE
MY
HEART
...

...IS
BEING
TORN
APART.

IT'S ALL
RIGHT! I'LL
PLAY WHAT-
EVER TOHRU
LIKES!

Ask for
anything!

AH HA
Ha!

B-BUT,
UM... I DON'T
REALLY
KNOW...

...classical
music...

EH
?!
!!



YOU'D WANT...

...TO BE NEAR THEM, WOULDN'T YOU?



...WITH YOU.

...I'LL...

...COOPERATE ...



WHAT?

DID YOU...

...FALL IN LOVE WITH SOME GUY?

EH?!
N-N-NO! THAT'S NOT IT! I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT MYSELF!



DON'T WORRY.

WHEN YOU DO FALL IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE...



...FOR YOU TO BE ON THE ROOF.

WHAT'S UP?

THIS IS UNUSUAL...

AH...



HUH?

...THE VERY LEAST I COULD DO.

AH... YES... IT WAS...

YOU'D WANT TO...

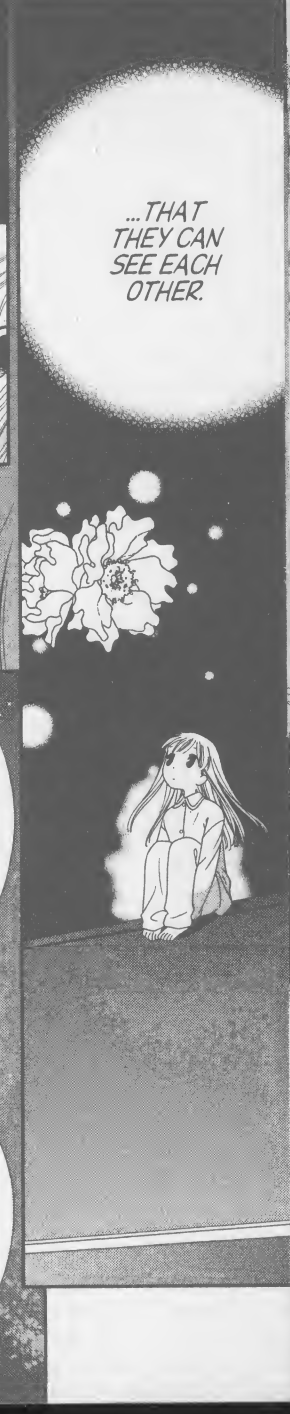
...BE WITH...

...THE PERSON YOU LOVE, RIGHT?

DID YOU GO ON AN EXPEDITION OR SOMETHING TODAY?

EH?

WHEN YOU CAME HOME, YOUR CLOTHES WERE REALLY DIRTY.



...THAT THEY CAN SEE EACH OTHER.

...DON'T
COME
TRUE?

IS IT
BECAUSE
MY OUT-
RAGEOUS
WISH...

...HURT SO
MUCH?

...IS SO DIS-
HEARTENING?

LIKE IT'S
BEING TORN
APART.

IS IT
BECAUSE
I KNOW...

...THAT
SOME
WISHES...

EVEN
SO...



...AH...

YES.

THANK
Y--

WHA...

WHY
ARE YOU
CRYING?!



I--
I DON'T
KNOW... FOR
SOME REASON,
T-TEARS
SUDDENLY...

...started
overflowing...

...MY
HEART...

WH-WHY
DOES...



Chapter 76





THAT'S NOT
A HAIKU.

THIS ISN'T
KAMAKURA.

LET US MAKE A
FINE COUNTRY
THE KAMAKURA
SHOGUNATE...



RIGHT NOW,
WE'RE ON A
FIELD TRIP
THERE.

THAT'S
RIGHT...

THIS IS
KYOTO!

OH! YOU'RE
RIGHT... MY
MISTAKE...
Tohru-kun has
one-upped me...
Heh heh...

THAT'S
NOT A
HAIKU!!

Ah!

IN THAT
CASE, WHAT
ABOUT, "SING,
NIGHTINGALE,
IN THE HEIAN
CAPITAL"?!
.....



IT'S A
WONDERFUL
BAMBOO
THICKET,
ISN'T IT?

AND THE
AUTUMN
LEAVES ARE
PRETTY, TOO.

YES...
TRULY...

WAH!

I WOULD
DEFINITELY
LIKE TO HEAR
THAT...

IT SUDDENLY...
MAKES ME
WANT TO READ
A HAIKU...



EHH
?!!

AND THEN,
A MURDER
MYSTERY
WILL
OCCUR...

GOING ON
A TRIP
WITH
EVERY-
ONE...

I THINK
THEY'VE
WATCHED
TOO MANY TV
DRAMAS...

...IS VERY
FUN.

BUT...



HUH?
YUKI-KUN...

...BUT
LATELY,
I'VE HAD A
LOT ON
MY MIND.

UH...YEAH.
THERE
ARE SOME
THINGS I
WANT TO
LOOK UP.

YOU'RE
GOING TO
YOUR ROOM
ALREADY?

I HAD
COMPLETELY
FORGOTTEN
THAT THIS
TRIP WAS
COMING!



...THIS ISN'T
REALLY THE
TYPE OF PLACE
TO VISIT IN
LARGE GROUPS?

MAYBE SO,
BUT THIS IS
A CLASS
TRIP--THERE'S
NOT MUCH
WE CAN DO
ABOUT IT.

IT KINDA
KILLS THE
ATMOSPHERE.

OUR CLASS
TRIP HAS
BEGIN!

YOU'RE
HUNGRY?

I want to
eat nishin
soba*

IT PAINS ME
THAT I CANNOT
FREELY TRY
THE FOOD AT
VARIOUS
RESTAURANTS
...

DON'T
YOU
THINK...

*herring noodles

OF COURSE,
OF COURSE! AND
WE'LL SPEND
MORE TIME
ENJOYING THE
GARDENS!

AND EAT
PLENTY OF
DELICIOUS
FOOD...

WHEN WE
DO, CAN WE
TAKE MORE TIME
LOOKING AT THE
SHRINES AND
TEMPLES?

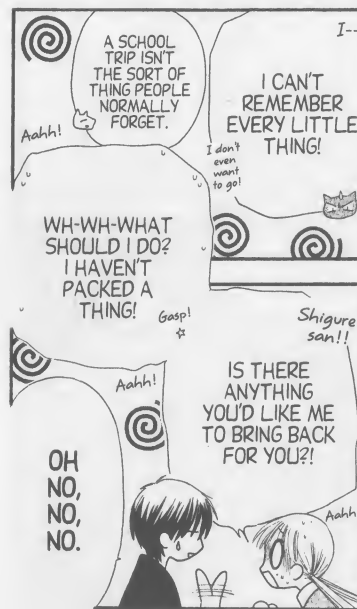
LET'S COME
AGAIN SOME-
TIME, JUST
US THREE
GIRLS!

THAT
SOUNDS
NICE...

Kunimitsu-niichan



He's not a Sohma, so he doesn't know any of the secrets of the Sohmas, like their possession by vengeful spirits. He met Kazuma when he was a mischievous lad. After he reformed, he took charge of helping Kazuma with his daily routine. As far as Kunimitsu is concerned, Kyo doesn't have a father other than Kazuma. He probably respects him. As for what Kyo thinks of him... I'm not sure. I guess that by now, he's no longer wary of him. Kyon is wary of *everyone* at first (laugh).



I STILL...
FEEL...

"I HAVE
NO INTEN-
TION..."

...OF
SEEING
HER."

...LIKE
I SHOULDN'T...

...TELL
HER.

I HAVEN'T...

...TOLD UO-
CHAN...

...THAT HER
KURENO-SAN
WAS KURENO
SOHMA-SAN.

THEY'RE
SAYING
THINGS
SIMILAR
TO WHAT
SHIGURE-
SAN WAS
SAYING...

CONFES-
SIONS OF
LOVE...

I wish
some girl
would fall
for me...

Excitement?
Maybe she's
right!

Don't
get your
hopes
up...

...WE
HURRIED UP
AND PACKED
OUR BAGS...

...AND MADE
IT SAFELY
TO KYOTO.

IT REALLY IS
PRETTY...I WISH
MOM COULD BE
HERE TO SEE IT.

Hey!
hey!

YOU THINK
THOSE TWO
ARE CLASS
TRIP COUPLE
NUMBER ONE?

YEAH!
YOU'RE RIGHT,
YOU'RE RIGHT!

I WONDER
WHAT IT IS ABOUT
THESE EVENTS
THAT MAKES
PEOPLE CONFESS
THEIR LOVE?

ISN'T IT THE
EXCITEMENT...?

A CLASS TRIP
IS A ROMANTIC
EVENT!! I MEAN,
THAT'S THE
ONLY REASON
ANYONE GOES
ON THOSE
TRIPS, RIGHT?!
ROMANCE!

YOUNG
PEOPLE
LEFT ON
THEIR OWN
CONFESS
THEIR LOVE
AND ARE
CONFESSED
TO, AND
EXPERIENCE
THEIR FIRST--

HEY, LISTEN
TO ME!!

AND SO, WITH
SHIGURE-SAN'S
ENCOURAGE-
MENT...



He doesn't get it.

I'm not as popular as you think, Gakoni-san.

Oh... But I want to beat everyone to him, really...

If we give into our feelings and confess our love, then none of us win, so we remain vigilant!

...We, the Prince Yuki Club, are protecting you!



EH...

AH! IT'S TRUE! HE'S REALLY GONE!

Roger that !! WE'RE GOING TO SPY ON HIM?! OH, COOL!

LOOK FOR HIM!! FIND HIM!!

UOOOHHH!!

EEHH ?!

H-Hana-chan, too?



BESIDES, KYO IS MORE POPULAR THAN I AM.

IT WOULD SEEM THAT SOMEONE HAS CALLED HIM AS WE SPEAK.



...YOU WOULD THINK THAT PRINCE CHARMING WOULD BE IN HIGH DEMAND RIGHT NOW.

SO WHY DOES HE HAVE SO MUCH FREE TIME?

EH ?!

TOHRU.

Y-YES?!

DON'T YOU THINK IT'S STRANGE?

EH...?

IF THERE'S SUCH A RUSH FOR EVERYONE TO CONFESS THEIR LOVE...

AH...!

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...

...AND IN SUNLIGHT...

...IS BECAUSE...

THAT...

ZAH

ZAH

...IN SHADOW ...

ZAH



IF YOU GO OUT WITH ME, YOU MIGHT GROW TO LIKE ME!

YOU CAN LEARN MY NAME NOW!

THEY'RE REALLY GOING AT IT!

A FIGHT SCENE?

I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOUR NAME.

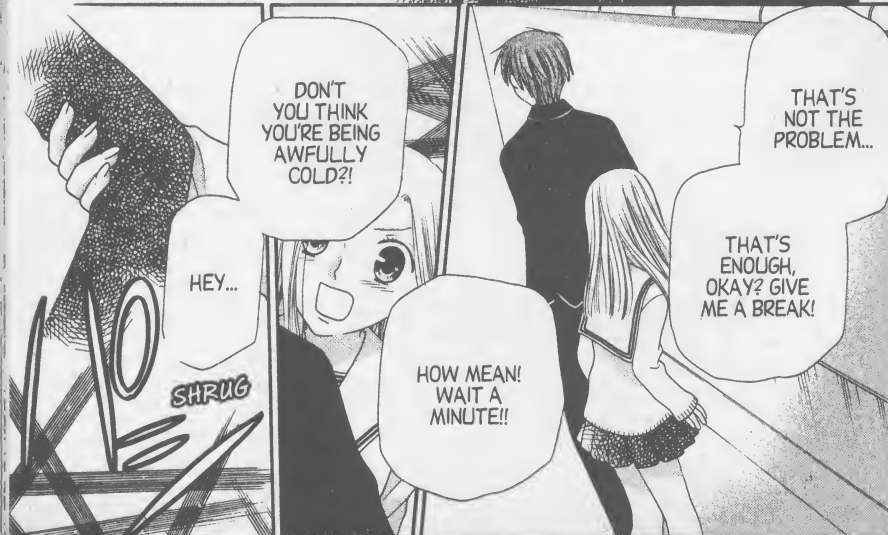
I TOLD YOU...

I DON'T LIKE YOU OR ANYTHING.

THAT KYON IS CLEARLY MAKING A FACE LIKE HE DOESN'T LIKE HER.

Ew, look!

I thought he was just embarrassed.



DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE BEING AWFULLY COLD?!

HEY...

SHRUG

HOW MEAN! WAIT A MINUTE!!

THAT'S ENOUGH, OKAY? GIVE ME A BREAK!

THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM...



I want to strangle her... She really is that incorrigible woman...

AH... B--

HONDA-SAN, SHALL WE GO ON AHEAD?

IT'S ALL RIGHT.

HE WON'T BE SWAYED.



EVER SINCE FIRST YEAR!

WH-WHY?!

WHAT'S WRONG WITH DATING?

I'VE ALWAYS LIKED YOU, KYO!



WHA
...?!

That's right!

IF YOU CAN'T
BE GENTLE,
YOU'LL
NEVER BE
A REAL
MAN!!

YOU HAVE
TO TREAT
GIRLS MORE
GENTLY!!

WHAT ARE
YOU GUYS
DOING
HERE?!

WHY
ARE YOU
TALKING
LIKE
GIRLS?

I WISH
I COULD
SAY THAT!

I WISH I
COULD FEEL
THAT WAY,
TOO!

I want to be
popular, I want
to be popular, oh,
I want to be
popular. I want
to be insanely
popular, I want
to be so popular I
can't stand it, I
want to be over-
whelming with
popularity!!

WHAT'S
YOUR
GUYS'
PROBLEM
...?

LOOK, YOU...!
WHAT GOOD
WOULD IT DO
TO BE NICE TO
A GIRL I'M NOT
INTERESTED IN?!

YOU'LL
NEVER BE
POPULAR
LIKE THAT!!

YOU'LL
BE ALL
ALONE!!

I DON'T
WANT TO BE
POPULAR!!



DON'T...
TOUCH
ME.

WHO DO YOU
THINK YOU
ARE, MAKING
A GUY LIKE
ME...

...PART
OF YOUR
STUPID
ROMANTIC
DREAMS?

YOU'RE...

...PISSING
ME OFF.



DAH!!

KYON,
YOU
IDIOT
!!!



HANG
IN THERE,
DESTRUCTIVE
IDIOT.

"IT HAS
NOTHING
TO DO
WITH
YOU."

SHUT
UP!!

LEAVE
ME
ALONE!!

YOU...

DESTRUCTIVE
IDIOT!!

EH? AH!
UM...

THANK
YOU.

THAT WAS
THE CORRECT
REACTION...

Have some
odango...

Destructive?

*Odango = balls of sweetened rice flour

IT'S
NOTHING!

Like I
could
tell her.

IT'S GOT
NOTHING
TO DO WITH
YOU!

AH...
UM...

WHAT ON
EARTH
COULD HAVE
CAUSED...

...SUCH
AN...

...uproar...

AAH!

Mastered
Kakeru's
technique
(with 3
times the
power)

OW!

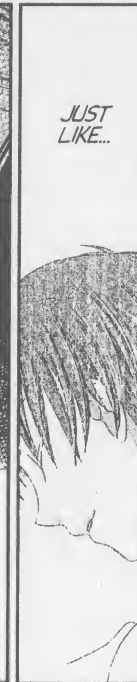
A SOHMA
FAMILY
FEUD?

WHAT
THE...?
WHAT IS
IT NOW?

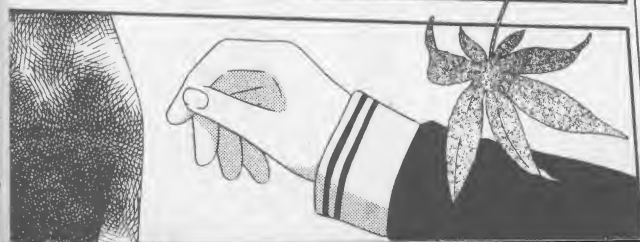
AH, UH,
UM...

Why's
everyone
getting
on my
case?!

WH-
WHAT
THE HELL
ARE YOU
DOING!?!







...LIKE
THAT.



...IF SOME
DAY...

...I'LL BE
PUSHED
AWAY...

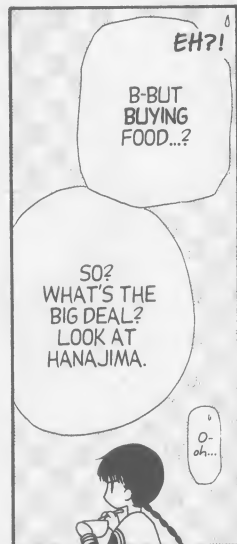


SHEESH.
LIKE
I CAN...

...BE NICE
TO EVERY
SINGLE
THING.



...
WONDER
...



KYO-
KUN...

...IS
MYSTERIOUS
INDEED.



Don't
give
me
that!!

THERE
ARE A LOT
OF STUDENTS
FROM YOUR
CLASS THERE,
TOO, SHIRAKI-
SENSEI!!

OH...

TEACHERS,
COME HERE!!

THE GIRLS
ARE IN THE
BOYS' ROOM!!

You
dropped
it over
there.



M-my wallet's
gone...!!

H-
Hub?
?!



IT'S A
MYSTERY.



BECAUSE OF
JUST A SINGLE
SENTENCE...

I GET
SHAKEN...

...OR I GET
HAPPY.



...WITH
ME?

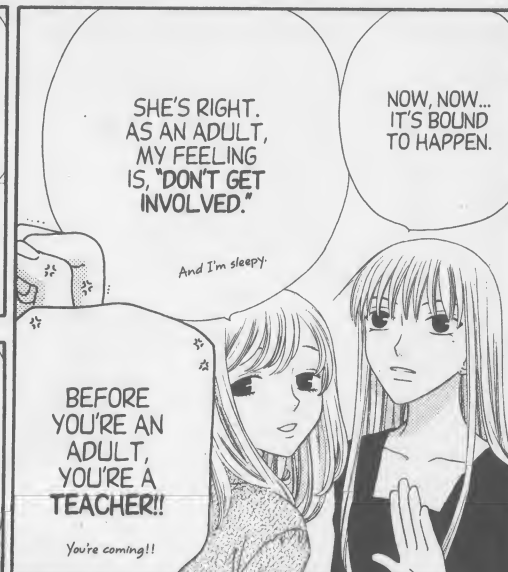
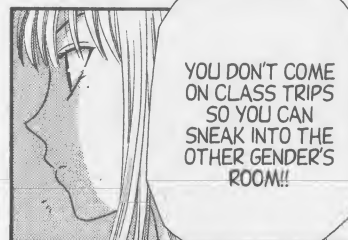
...YOU
WANNA
KILL
SOME
TIME...



OKAY
...!



Chapter 77





YUKI...?

WHAT SHOULD WE DO...?

HMMM...

I don't know...

HIS EYES ARE OPEN, BUT HE'S TOTALLY UNAWAKE!



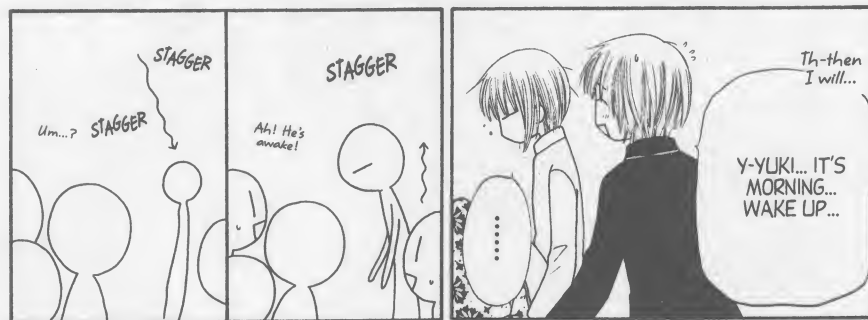
I'm going on ahead.

WHA?! WHY ME?

IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR BREAKFAST...

LEAVE HIM.

KYON, WAKE HIM UP!



STAGGER

STAGGER

Um...? STAGGER

Ah! He's awake!

Th-then I will...

Y-YUKI... IT'S MORNING... WAKE UP...



WHAT WOULD I WANT WITH ANY SOUVENIRS?

...NOTHING.

...I ASKED MACHI AND NAO IF THERE WAS ANYTHING THEY WANTED ME TO BRING BACK FOR THEM.

BEFORE WE SET OUT ON THE CLASS TRIP...



...she hates spending her money for anyone other than herself!

As for Kimi...

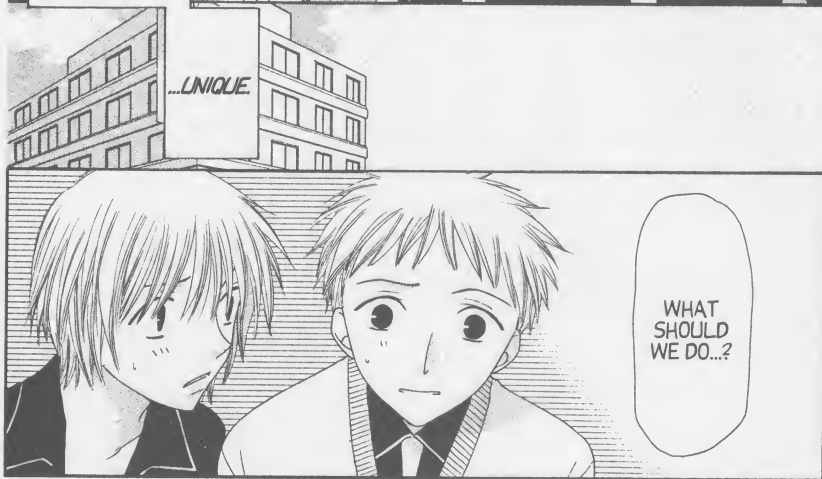
YOU ARE DEVOID OF CUTENESS!!

Hmm...

SO THAT'S HOW IT IS...

WHAT CAN I SAY? MY FELLOW STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE...

CHOP



...UNIQUE.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO...?



I GUESS
THERE'S NO
HELP FOR IT,
YUN-YUN.

YOU WERE
PROBABLY
BROUGHT UP
AS A SPOILED
LITTLE RICH
GIRL.

Good grief.
Sigh...



GOOD JOB,
NABE!!

YUKI'S
AWAKE!!

NABE,
YOU'RE
THE BEST!!

GO EAT
BREAKFAST
NOW, ALL
OF YOU!



OW! OW!! I'M
SORRY, I WAS
WRONG!! I MEANT
"BOY"! "SPOILED
LITTLE BOY"!!

EITHER
WAY, YOU'RE
MAKING FUN
OF ME.

EEOUCH!

SQUEEZE!

OOOOOOOHH!!



IT'S
A CLUMSY
SIDE OF YUKI
THAT HAS
NEVER EVER
BEEN SEEN
BEFORE!!!

GUH-
WAAH
!!!

WHAM

HOW'S HIS
FACE? IS HIS
FACE OKAY?!

YUKI!!!
WHAT'RE
YOU GONNA
DO IF YOU
GET A SCAR?!



WHY ARE YOU
FALLING INTO
SUCH A PANIC
OVER THAT?

VICE
PRESIDENT!
YUKI AIN'T
WAKIN'
UP!!

I reckon
he's gonna
hurt im-
self!!



HELLOO?

YUN-YUN!
ARE YOU
ASLEEP?



G'MORNI-
KINS!

HUH? DID
SOMETHING
HAPPEN TO
LEADER?



Worrying about him is a waste of time.

POSITIVE.



...I FELT AS IF I'D SEEN THIS PERSON BEFORE... A LONG TIME AGO...

EVER SINCE... I SAW HIM ONSTAGE GREETING EVERYONE...

EH?

I'VE ALWAYS FELT THAT...



LOOK THIS WAY!

FLASH

SO THAT'S WHY YOU WERE LATE TO BREAKFAST?

OKAY.



BUT IT'S FINE.

I DON'T CARE.

A-ARE YOU SURE...?

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE VICE PRESIDENT AFTER THAT?

NICE SHOT!

So?

WHAT?

What? After I went to all the trouble to make you up! Should I stop!

I'm not talking to you any more, so don't talk to me. You should head!

NN? HE WAS YELLING ABOUT SOMETHING...

Megumi Hanajima



Odango are the best.

As the creator, I think their brother/sister pairing is a miracle hit. (Enough of that! You say that too much.) If Megumi hadn't been around, Hana-chan's life may have turned out a little differently. That's exactly why Hana-chan loves Megumi so much. As for Megumi, he may have been born a fan(?) of his older sister (laugh). By the way, he's a second-year in middle school. ...Or he should have been (hey!). Both of the siblings like odango.





I TREASURE
THAT...

EVEN
NOW.

WHETHER
THROUGH
CHANCE...

THANK
YOU!

SOMEHOW...

...OR MY OWN
DECEITFULNESS.

YOU...

...STANDING
THERE, SO
QUIETLY...

...SMILING
AT ME.

I THINK
I'VE FOUND
SOME
LINDER:
STANDING.

FAINTLY
GLOWING...

...MEMORIES--
YOUR SOUVENIRS--
ARE INSIDE YOU,
YUKI-KUN.

YOU
HAVE
THEM.

I'M
SURE...

...YOU DO.

SOFTLY...

THANK
YOU!

"OR SOME-
THING."

Hee
hee!

... blush

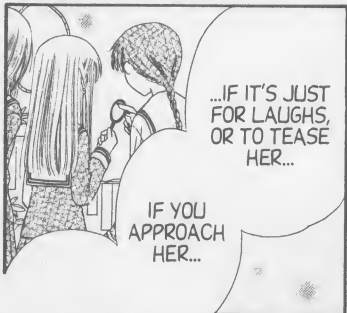
OR
SOME-
THING...

...OR...





BUT...



...IF IT'S JUST FOR LAUGHS, OR TO TEASE HER...

IF YOU APPROACH HER...



...FOR YOUR OWN SELFISH AMUSEMENT...

...I WILL ACT SELFISHLY AS WELL.



IF YOU HURT HER, I WON'T FORGIVE YOU.

EVER.



...IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ME.

THAT'S YOUR CHOICE.

AND IT'S HER CHOICE WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT.

I HAVE NO RIGHT TO INTERFERE.



...DOES SHE HAVE SOME RELATIONSHIP TO YOU?

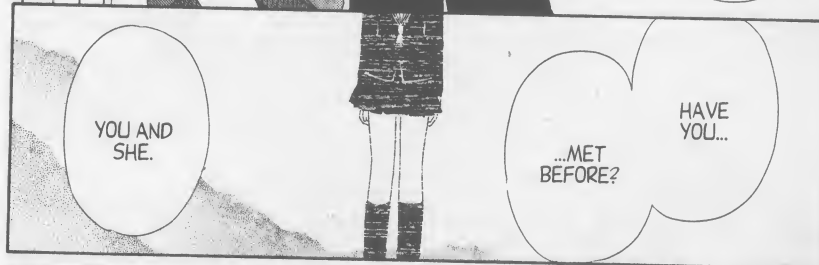
OR...

IS IT BECAUSE YOU'RE CURIOUS ABOUT HER RELATIONSHIP WITH ME?

AREN'T YOU...

...UNUSUALLY INTERESTED IN HER?

...YOU WERE WITH THAT TOHRU/HONDA GIRL, RIGHT?



YOU AND SHE.

HAVE YOU...

...MET BEFORE?



...I LIKE HER?

WHAT IF I WERE TO SAY THAT, ACTUALLY...

MMM...

...IT'S JUST THAT...



NE--?!!



"NEVER..."



...SPEAK
TO ME?"

I SOUND LIKE A
LITTLE KID! "NEVER
SPEAK TO YOU
AGAIN"...?! "NEVER
SPEAK TO YOU
AGAIN"...?!!

WHAT AM
I SAYING?!
WHERE DID
THAT COME
FROM?!

SAYING THAT
WON'T HAVE
ANY EFFECT
WHATSOEVER!!
I'LL BE
LAUGHED AT!!

"NEVER SPEAK
TO YOU"?
WHAT AM
I SAYING?!

NO, UM,
THAT
WAS...!

WHA...

STEP...



SO
WHAT?

IF I WAS
THAT KIND
OF GUY...



...HOW
WOULD
YOU NOT
FORGIVE
ME?



I'D NEVER
SPEAK TO
YOU AGAIN.

THAT IS
THE ONE
THING...

...CANNOT
FORGIVE.



I COULD
NEVER
FORGIVE
YOU.



WHAT ABOUT ME?!

SHUT UP! YOU LIVE FOR YOUR GIRLFRIEND, DON'T YOU?!

PLEASE STOP WITH THAT SUBJECT...

How did it get started...?



If there's anything you want to see, Kimi doesn't mind showing it to you, Yun-Yun.

...I'M SORRY.



I REALLY LOVE HER!

JUST ONE GIRL. SHE'S AWFUL CUTE.

Why do you look so surprised?

I DO. I DO.

YOU HAVE A GIRLFRIEND...?

Oh!

There's a girl who can put up with this?



FUME FUME

Grrr!

DON'T SAY YOU'LL NEVER SPEAK TO ME AGAIN! YOU INCONSIDERATE FOOL!!

HOW COULD YOU, YUKI?!

EEH? IT WORKED?!

WE HAVEN'T EVEN HAD A HOT DISCUSSION ABOUT THE QUALITY OF EROTIC VIDEOS YET!!

And why erotic videos?

Don't watch erotic videos until you're eighteen.

ANYWAY, I'M NOT THAT KIND OF GUY!

I JUST WANT TO TRY SAYING IT!

OKAY! OKAY!!

Eehh? What?



YUN-YUN SAYS IF I DON'T SHOW HIM MY TREASURED PORN TAPES, HE WON'T TALK TO ME EVER AGAIN!!

What, what? What's wrong?! Are you having a naughty conversation?!

Ooohhh, let Kimi join in!



I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND, BUT...

I DIDN'T! I DIDN'T SAY THAT!



I THINK THAT A WOMAN WHO GOES AROUND ALWAYS HITTING ON MEN WHO HAVE GIRLFRIENDS CAN'T BE TRUSTED!

She'll lead men to ruin.

SOMEHOW... YOU TWO...

BUT KIMI THINKS THAT A MAN WHO MAKES IT A POINT TO WATCH PORN EVEN THOUGH HE HAS A GIRLFRIEND CAN'T BE TRUSTED!



I think he's cheating on her in his heart.

BUT...

Eeehhh?!

Isn't it just that they don't have enough love?

I think you share in the responsibility.

That's not Kimi's fault. It's their own responsibility!



THE PART OF ME THAT PANICKED AND SAID SOMETHING SO SENSELESS...

"NEVER TALK TO HIM AGAIN..."

THAT PART OF ME...



...THAT THEY'RE IN LOVE.

...I GUESS I COULD NEVER TRULY HATE SOMEONE....

...WHO IS CAPABLE OF SAYING...



...



NEVER MIND THAT!! FORGET IT!!

...are you not talking to me?



KIMI DOESN'T HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.



I HAVE A DIFFERENT REASON FOR ASKING ABOUT HER, I GUESS...

SO YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT. I'M NOT AFTER HONDA-SAN.

EH?

BUT I'M SURE I WON'T BE THE LAST PERSON TO ASK ABOUT HER.

AS FOR THE REASON, I'LL PUT OFF TELLING YOU...

...A LITTLE LONGER.

IS THAT BAD?



"I'M
SURE..."

...YOU
DO."

"YOU HAVE
THEM."

...SOMEDAY
I MIGHT
LOOK BACK
AT THIS
MEMORY...

...AND
SMILE.

I WONDER
IF THAT
WILL EVER
HAPPEN?



I MIGHT
NOT
HATE
IT SO
MUCH.

TODAY...

...FOR THE
FIRST
TIME...

...THAT
SOME-
DAY...

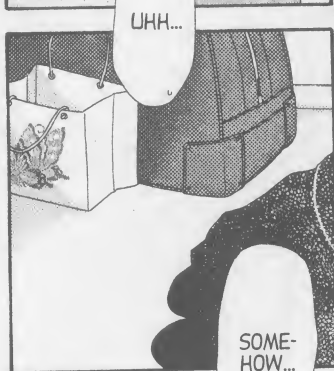
...I THOUGHT...



IT WILL
FAINTLY...



...START
TO GLOW.



SOME-
HOW...

*Box: Chinese Zodiac





Filler
Sketch



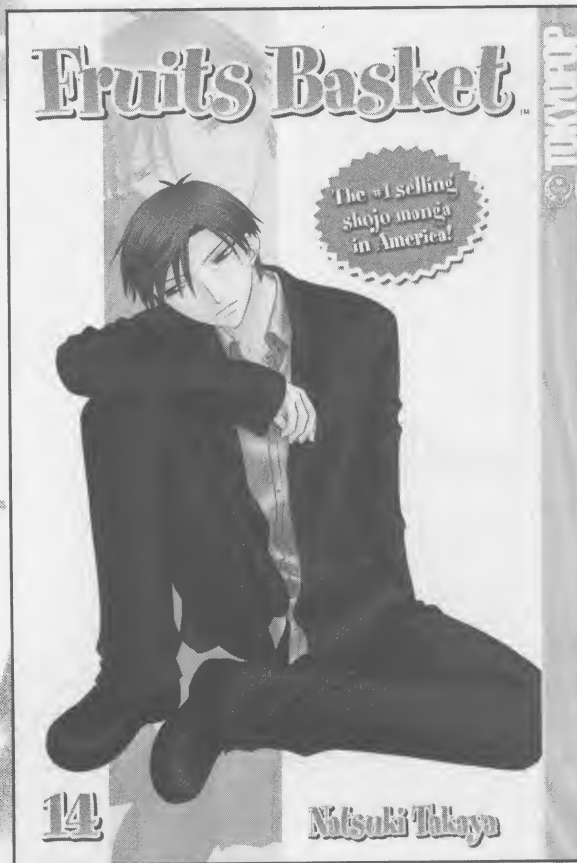
So carefree....



...AND START
TO GLOW.

To Be Continued in Volume 14...

Next time in...



Not For the Faint of Heart...

Convinced he's hiding something, Rin continues going to Shigure's house. But this time, Rin feels sick and passes out! While unconscious, Rin dreams of how her happy family fell into tragedy...and how she once decided to try to break the curse! When Rin awakes, Tohru tries to convince Rin to go to the hospital, but Rin refuses. Later that night, Rin argues with Tohru, telling her to stop trying to break the curse! Meanwhile, Yuki goes to the ASB council room only to find it trashed again! But as the secrets of who trashed the room come out of the closet, Yuki accidentally gets locked in one.

Fruits Basket Volume 14
Available August 2006

*I feel so
grateful!*



Harada-sama, Araki-sama,
Mother, Father and everyone
who reads and supports this
manga...thank you so much
for your support!

*Next is...I'm currently worried about
that... But it'll probably end up being
Kureno-san...maybe?*

—Natsuki Takaya



Fans Basket

Hello, faithful *Furuba* fans! I hope you enjoyed Volume 13 of *Fruits Basket*! Things are really starting to get intense, huh? I hope Tohru doesn't get buried in drama. Speaking of being buried, I have more fan art and letters than I know what to do with! I am continually impressed by your dedication and faithfulness. Long live *Furuba* and its fans! Once again, thank you all for making my job such a blast!

- Paul Morrissey, Editor

Meghan E. Riedel
Age 14 1/2
Richmond, MI



Wow, Meghan. I absolutely love this drawing. I've made a snowman before, but never a Snow-Kyo! Nice work!

Year of the Horse: Rin, Of Course!



Unfortunately, Horses dislike taking the advice of others since it makes them feel alienated and inferior and they end up being a lone wolf when it comes to their professions. When they have something to show for themselves though, they eat up any attention they are given and are exceptional motivators.

Gifted with a silver tongue and constantly on the move, women born in the Year of the Horse are impeccable multitaskers that give off an air of being in a dozen places at once. While all are bright and fresh in their appearance, ladies of this year range in demeanor from being gentle as a kitten to as untamable as Alexander's horse, Bucephalus. Nonetheless, they all have a deep love of nature that shines through in their passion for constantly wanting to see what new sights the world has to offer.

Celebrity Horses:

Halle Berry
Jason Biggs
Cindy Crawford
Janet Jackson
Matthew Fox
Chris Rock
David Schwimmer
Kiefer Sutherland
Mister Ed

Horse

Years: 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, 2002, 2014, 2026, 2038

Positive Qualities: Cunning, Adventurous, Cheerful, Social, Competitive

Grievances: Impatient, Selfish, Stubborn

Suitable Jobs: Scientist, Poet, Politician, Explorer

Compatible With: Tigers, Dogs

Must Avoid: Rats

Ruling Hours: 11 AM to 1 PM

Season: Summer

Ruling Month: June

Sign Direction: South

Fixed Element: Fire

Corresponding Western Sign: Gemini

For countless millennia, one creature has stood above all others in helping to shape the world we live in--the Horse. Without this four-legged creature, Qin Shihuang, China's first emperor, would never have been able to unify China's vast territory in 221 BC nor would the Americas be what they are today had early explorers not brought them over in their quests for gold. Thus, for anyone fortunate enough to be born in this year, many blessings abound.

Horses are naturally hardworking individuals that are both intelligent and friendly. Horses love spending time in the company of others and thrive on popularity. They are highly competitive, but can be impatient and selfish when it comes to the needs of others. Ironically, Horses crave love and intimacy, but they often feel trapped and like to have their space at times.

Highly talented, Horses seem to excel in any jobs involving the use of their hands, as they are not very cerebral.

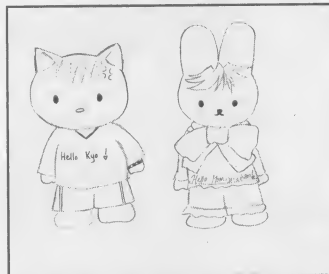
*Note: It is important to know on which day Chinese New Year's was held, as that changes what Zodiac animal you are. Example: 1990 actually began on January 27 and anyone born before that date is actually a Snake.

Amarie
Age 16
Matthews, NC



Awwww, those kitty cats are adorable, Amarie!

Linh Bui
Age 18
Edmonton, Canada



Here's another sketch that made me laugh out loud. Very funny picture, Linh. We should make "Hello Kyo" plush toys, key chains, stickers and backpacks!

Hillary Travis
Age 15
Powhatan, VA



Haha! This piece of art really made me laugh! I guess Momiji is a terrible singer. Is that why they gave him a lollipop "microphone"? Drawing a *Fruits Basket* band was really inspired, Hillary.

Lin Van
Age: 13
Pepeckee, HI

Cool! The entire cast of *Fruits Basket* is here in your drawing! I particularly like Yuki on the top of Tohru's head! Say hi to your sister for me! Her name's Mui, right? Did she help draw this picture! If so, nice work, girls!



FURUBA
HIRO
KISO



Hey, Fiona! I agree~Kiso and Hiro make a lovely couple! Speaking of lovely, Fiona drew a very charming self-portrait on the back of her letter.

Fiona Quan
Age 16 1/2
Riverbank, CA

Do you want to share your love for *Fruits Basket* with fans around the world? "Fans Basket" is taking submissions of fan art, poetry, cosplay photos, or any other Furuba fun you'd like to share!

How to submit:

1) Send your work via regular mail (NOT e-mail) to:

"Fans Basket"
c/o TOKYOPOP
5900 Wilshire Blvd.
Suite 2000
Los Angeles, CA 90086

2) All work should be in black-and-white and no larger than 8.5" x 11". (And try not to fold it too many times!)

3) Anything you send will not be returned. If you want to keep your original, it's fine to send us a copy.

4) Please include your full name, age, city and state for us to print with your work. If you'd rather us use a pen name, please include that, too.

5) **IMPORTANT:** If you're under the age of 18, you must have your parent's permission in order for us to print your work. Any submissions without a signed note of parental consent cannot be used.

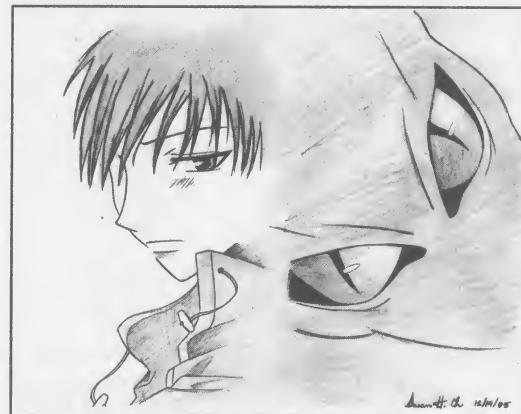
6) For full details, please check out our website: <http://www.tokyopop.com/aboutus/fanart.php>

Disclaimer: Anything you send to us becomes the exclusive property of TOKYOPOP Inc. and, as we said before, will not be returned to you. We will have the right to print, reproduce, distribute, or modify the artwork for use in future volumes of *Fruits Basket* or on the web royalty-free.



I recently found this sketch at the bottom of my fan mail pile. Poor Raye probably sent it in well over a year ago! It was worth the wait. Excellent drawing, Raye. You really capture the essence of *Fruits Basket*. I think this love triangle is what keeps everyone hooked.

Raye
Age 19
Roseville, CA



Susan H. Oh
Age 15
Montebello, CA

I found your art very haunting, Susan. This is a great piece of art!



The scarf is my favorite part of this sketch. Clever way to depict the zodiac animals, Brittany!

Brittany Lewis
Age 13
San Antonio, TX